

THE
ARCHITECT
& BUILDING NEWS

4 FEBRUARY 1954

VOL. 205

No. 5

ONE SHILLING WEEKLY

- COLLEGE OF COMMERCE, BIRMINGHAM
- TWO CONVERSIONS, LONDON, W.I
- CURRENT MEASURED RATES

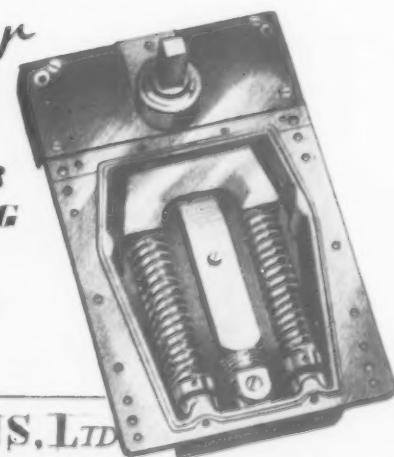


Edward Bawden

City Grandeur

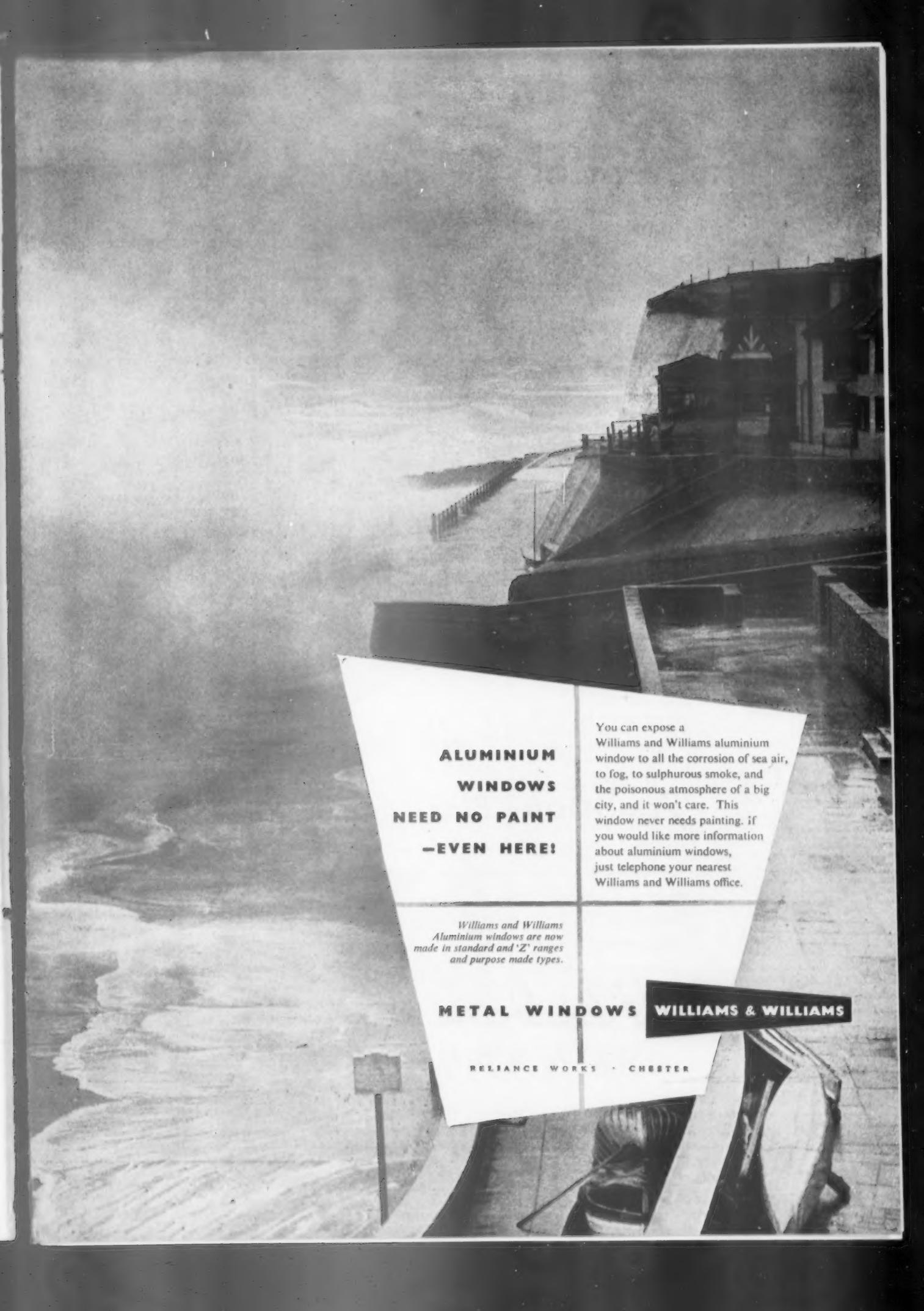
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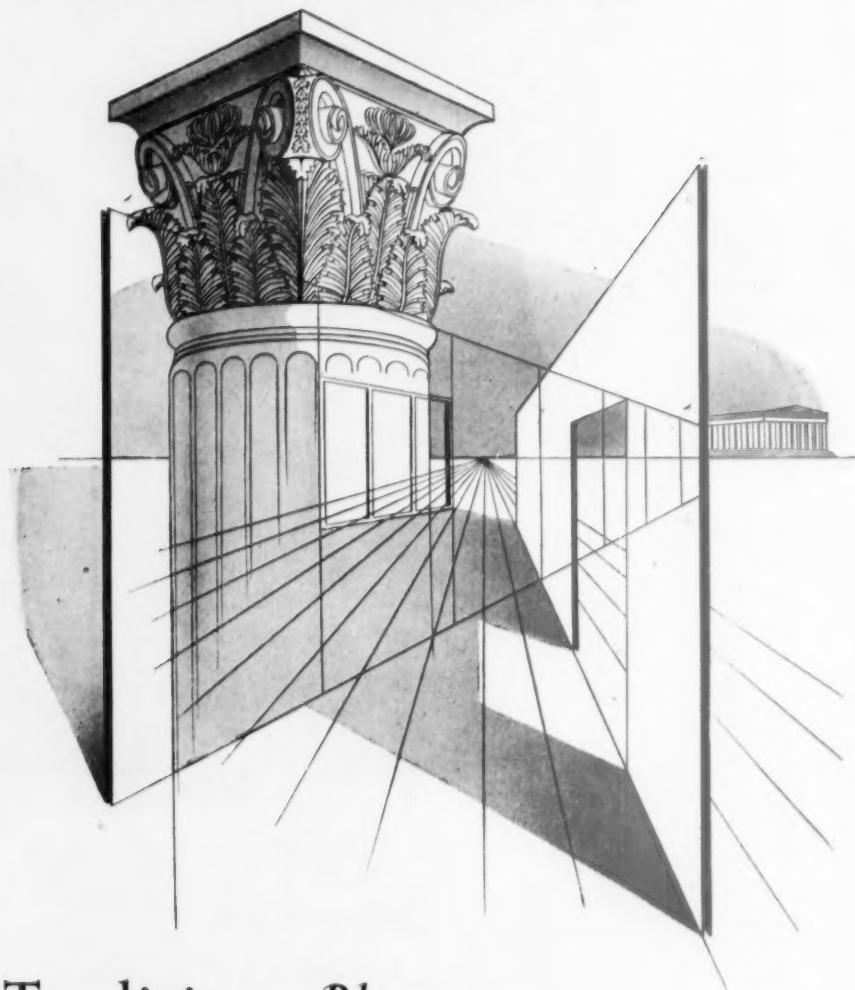
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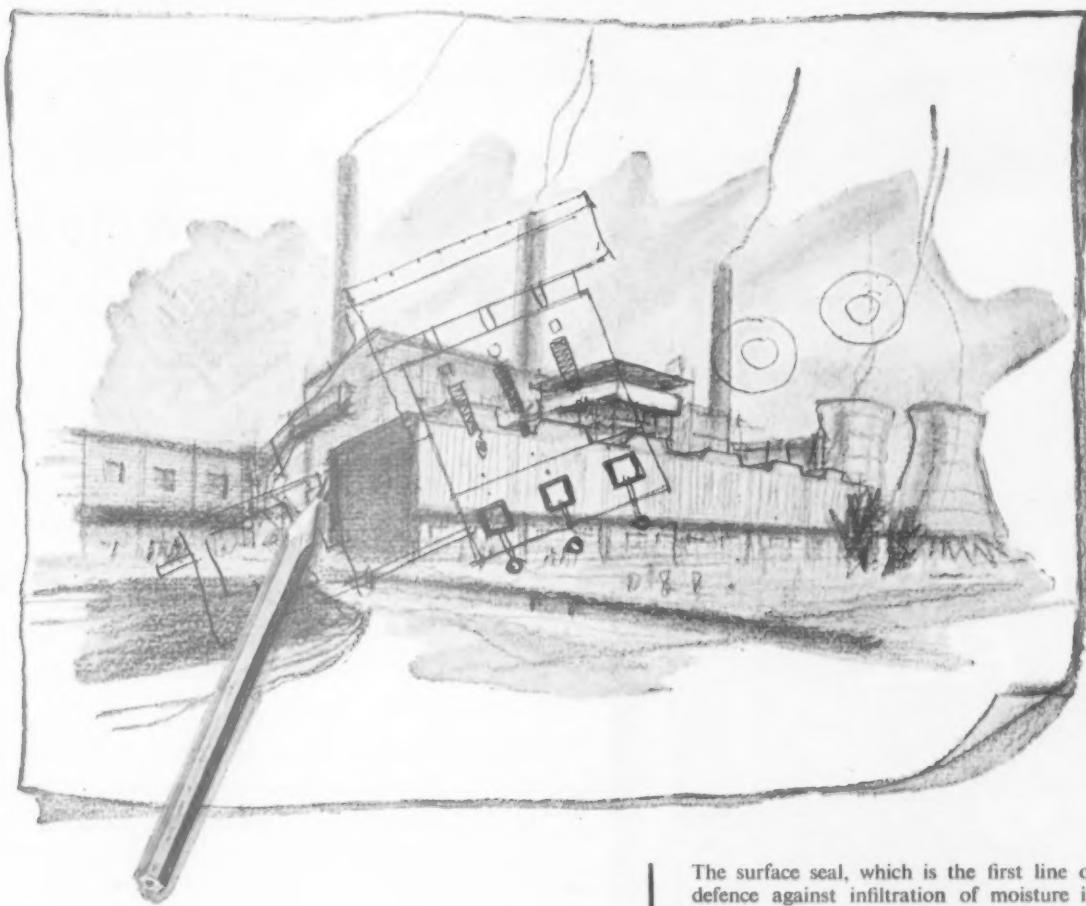
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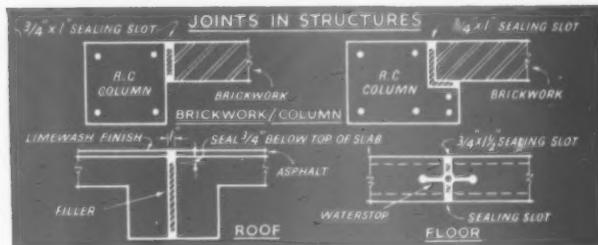
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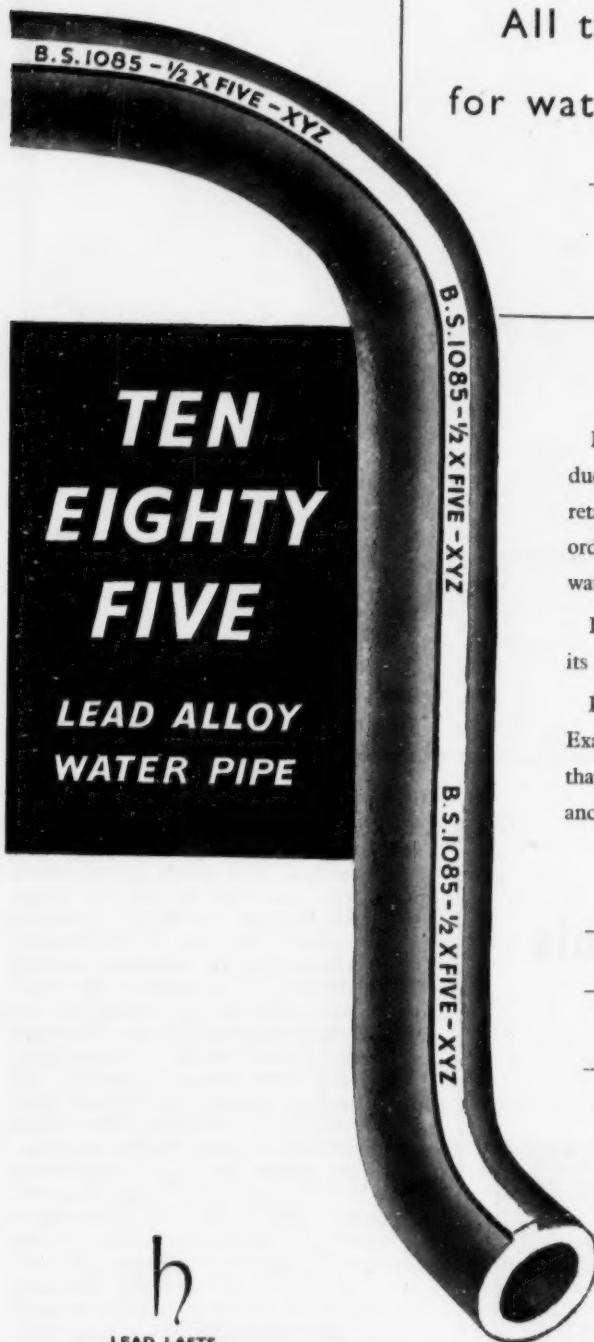


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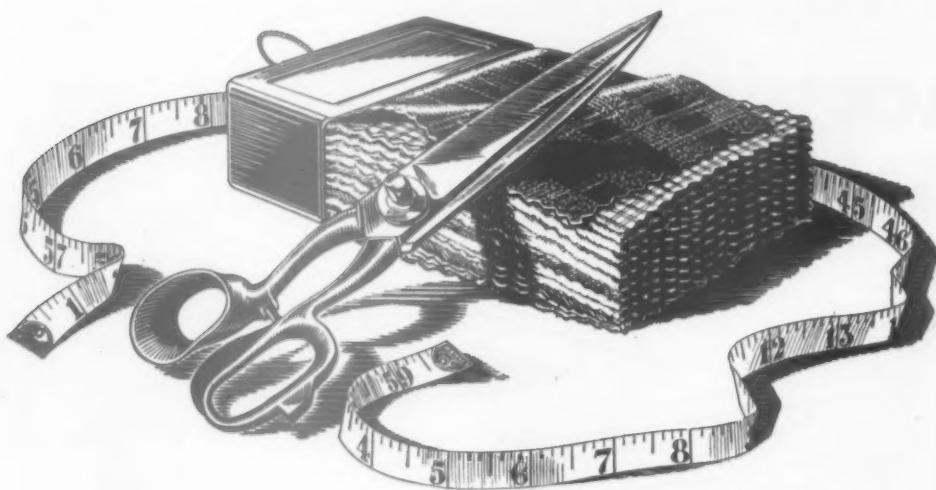
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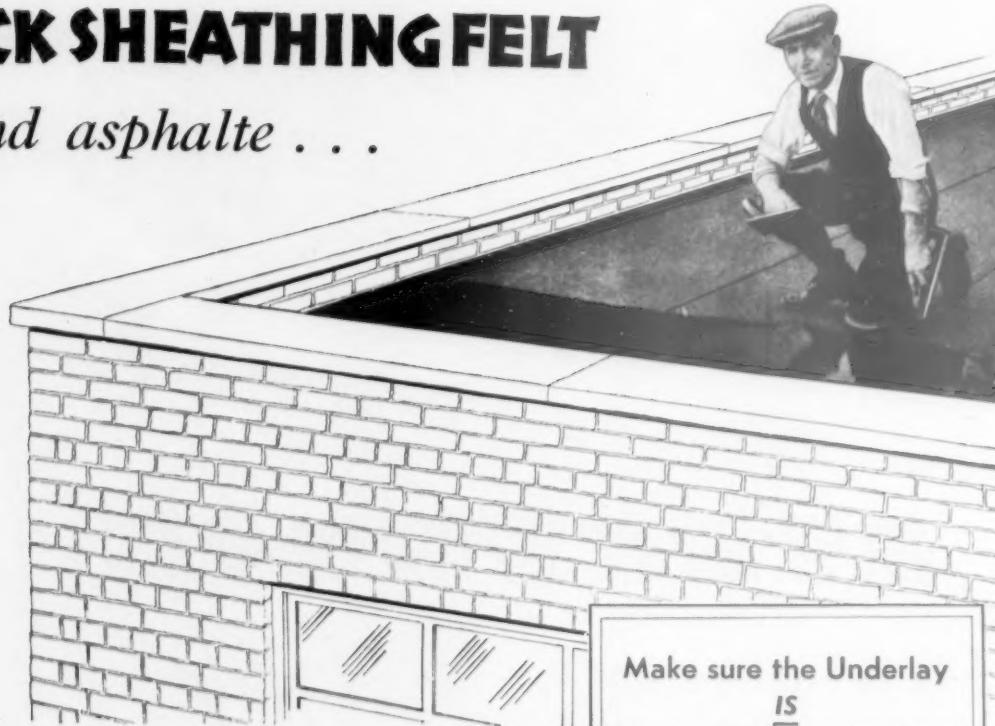
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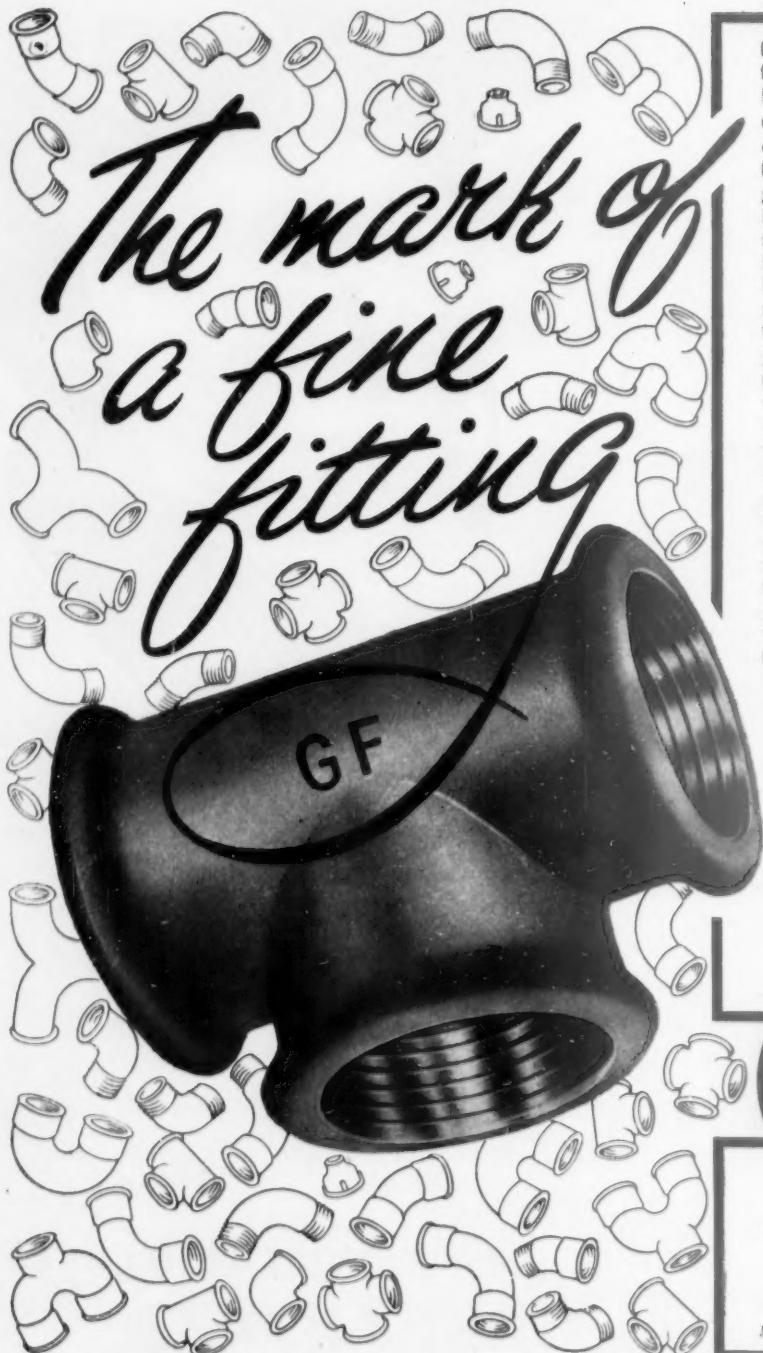
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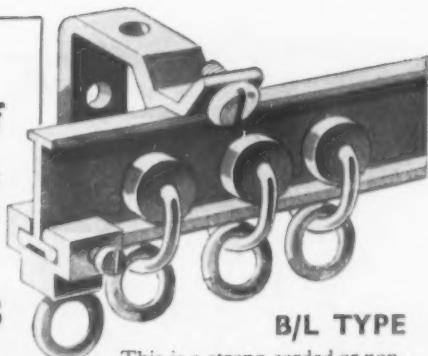
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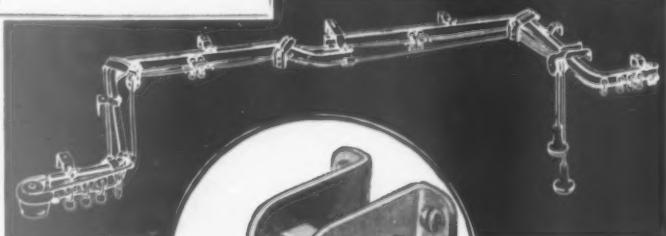


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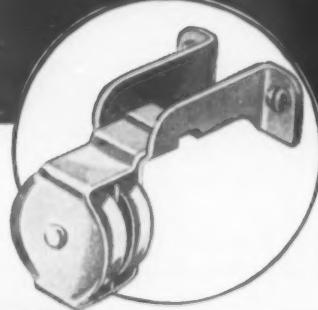
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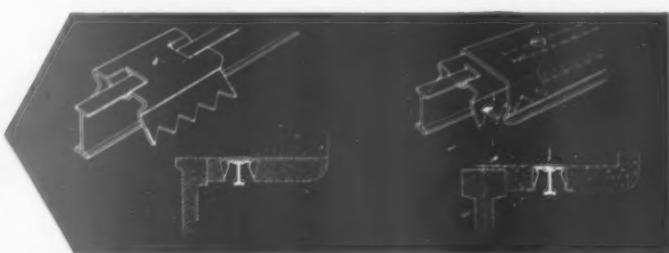
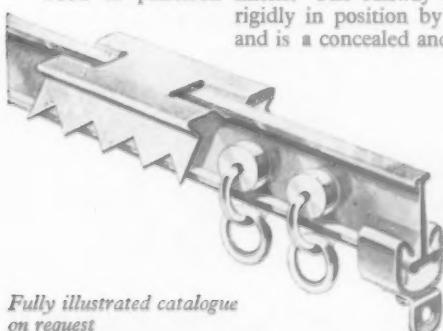
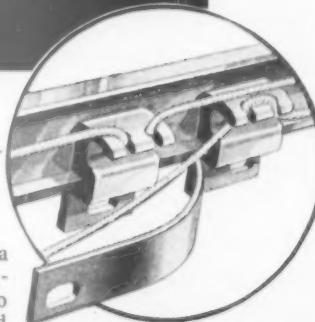
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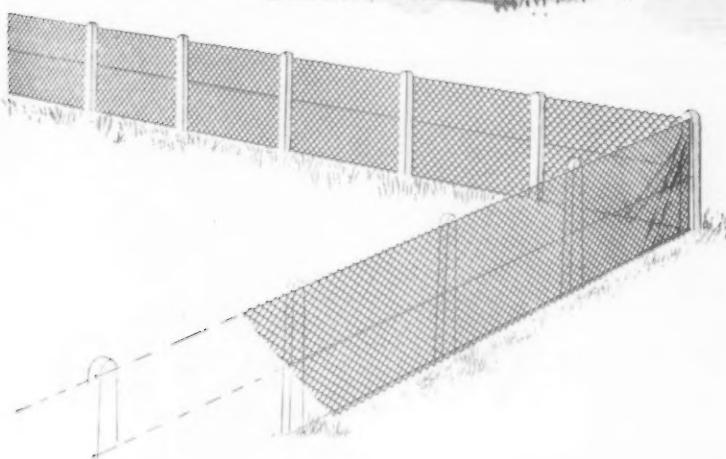
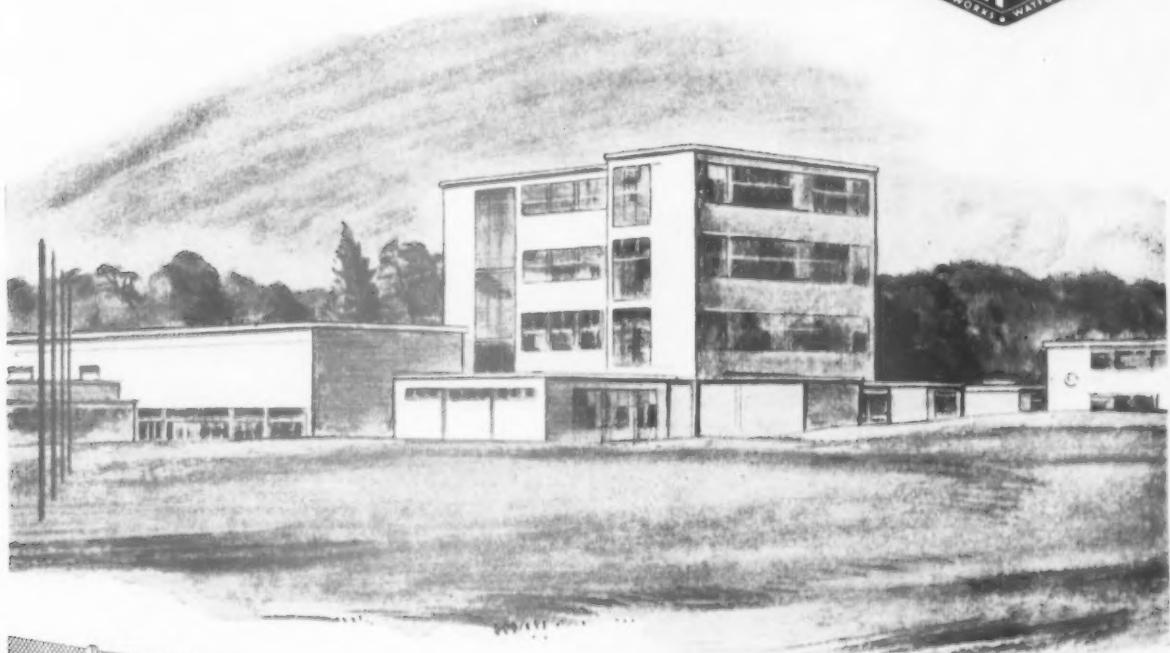
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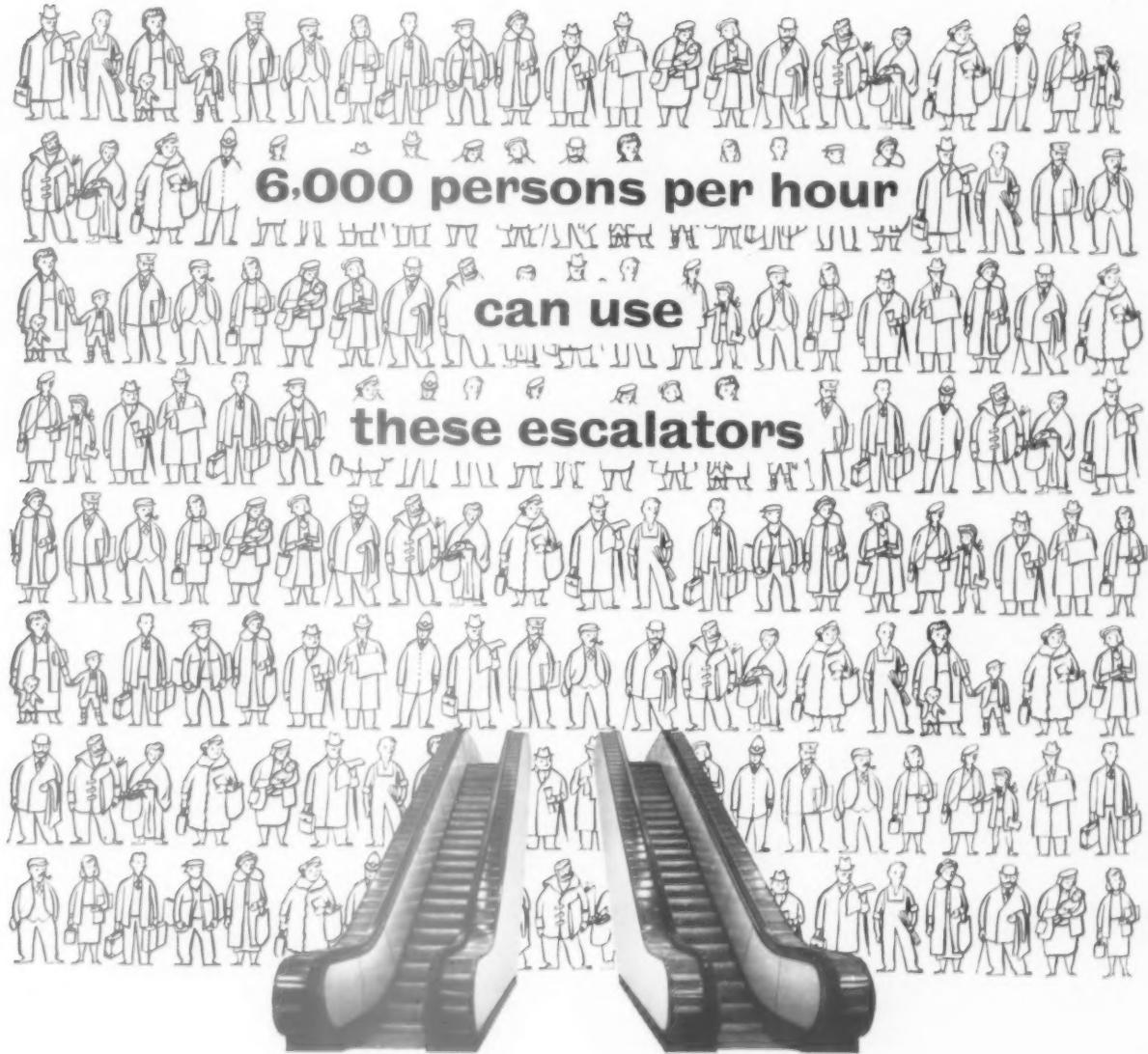
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BATH ASSEMBLY ROOMS PROBLEM

APART altogether from its financial and legal points, the controversy now running between the National Trust and the Bath City Corporation over the reconstruction of the Assembly Rooms has extremely important implications for architects and leads one to interesting parallels with past practice.

The bombing of 1942 gutted almost the whole interior of the Assembly Rooms suite; the only parts to remain substantially intact were various modern peripheral additions. The only important Georgian work to stay in the main unharmed was the gallery with its superimposed columns, the lower set Ionic, the upper row Corinthian, at the West end of the Tea Room.

The official position was, and is, that the Bath Corporation holds the Rooms on a lease, at a peppercorn rent, from the National Trust. The donor of the Rooms to the National Trust is still alive. Soon after the bombing of the Rooms an undertaking was given by the Trust that their interior, of which drawings exist, should be reconstructed exactly as before. The exterior, being in the main intact, presents no difficulty.

Architecture and stylistic details apart, there are two considerations now, among other things, being weighed against each other in a controversy which has moved fairly fast in the last few weeks. The Bath Corporation point out that they lost heavily on the Rooms during the three and a half years which saw them in operation between 1938 and 1942. They have another important social centre in the Pump Room, and the Upper Rooms are less of a proposition in the mid-twentieth century than they were in the 1770's and in the *floruit* periods of Jane Austen and Dickens. This matter of finance (in some ways resembling the economic difficulties which have always beset the Pittville Pump Room at Cheltenham) was one of the reasons which led the Bath Corporation to make their attempt to disclaim the National Trust's lease. The Trust, on the other hand, feel themselves morally bound to respect the donor's wishes and to reinstate the Rooms

in statum quo ante bellum. As the donor was also the donor of the tragically demolished Coleshill one can sympathize with his feelings. For this and other reasons, in part of philo-Georgian piety, the Trust have now served a notice by which they rebut the disclaimer and put themselves in a legal position by which they can enforce their claim. So unless the Bath authorities can persuade the Trust to shift their ground it seems that a large cost of works payment will be used on the skilful reconstruction of Wood the Younger's interiors and that the donor's moral claim will, in this case, be decisive.

The result, one assumes, will be the production, with the aid of the surviving eighteenth century pillars and a few urns remaining in their niches along the upper walls of the ballroom, of an agreeable interior such as many of our decorating firms are quite capable of creating on virgin sites. The Rockefellers have had the same sort of thing done very well in Williamsburg, Va. What is more doubtful is whether such a reconstruction will add much to our artistic and historic capital.

The case of the Bath Assembly Rooms offers no real parallel to some other important, and at first sight similar, cases in other cities. Their reconstruction, with the detail of Wood the Younger's time and with the same disposition of the various rooms, would not be like the recent refurbishings of the Assembly Rooms at Norwich or York. Nor would it be a parallel to the recovery of the faded, yet still existing, glories of the Theatre Royal at Bristol and their subsequent brilliant use for their first purpose. It would be a matter of complete rebuilding, and of the production of what would in essence be a charming fake within a good, if somewhat austere and not very happily sited, exterior. Nor would it be a close parallel to some actual cases of exact restoration which have by now taken place since the war. There would not, for instance, have been much point in doing anything else but a literal reconstruction at Exeter Cathedral where the bombs did no more than knock down a comparatively small part of the South choir aisle. At Bath one has a

virtually clean slate, and clean slates, as Wren showed at St. Paul's, are apt to present opportunities.

What would be more interesting at Bath than simple reproduction would be a really intelligent attempt to create a truly contemporary, yet mannerly and respectful interior within the Assembly Rooms' dignified Georgian shell. There could be no question of anything as unlike its predecessors as the new auditorium of the Colston Hall in Bristol, for in that case the gutted shell imposed no stylistic obligations on the designers of the 1950s. But something unmistakably in accordance with our own taste, and at the same time respecting Wood the Younger, would be a fitting compromise and well within the powers of our present-day school. That, after all, was what was done at Worcester when the very early Georgian Guildhall was refitted upstairs in the 1790s; the new interior was Adam, not neo-Palladian or reminiscently Baroque.

Nor is Bath the only city which poses this dilemma of "literal" or "contemporary" restoration. In Bath, as I have tried to show, there are very strong moral reasons for doing what may well prove hard to justify in finance or aesthetics. The Bath difficulty does not apply to the City churches of London. It has been announced that the interior of St. Mary le Bow is now to be rebuilt almost exactly to Wren's original design; the drawing of the project certainly indicates that Wren's detail will in essence be reproduced. Now at St. Stephen's, Walbrook and St. James', Piccadilly, there were substantial remains of the Wren interior decoration, so that a faithful reinstatement of the original was logical and, in the case of St. Stephen's, specially desirable. But at St. Mary le Bow the gutting of the body of the church was virtually complete. The present proposal is not in accordance with what Wren himself would have done, nor is this what he did with the shell of St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, a short distance away—he created a "Wren" interior within the late mediæval shell. It will be a pity if our veneration for the shade of Wren leads us to do things which the master himself would have intellectually despised. The policy for St. Mary le Bow is that which is being followed in the rebuilding of the Abbey church at Monte Cassino, a scheme which is now running into heavy criticism from many of those who have seen what is being done.

The whole problem is beset with sentiment and is of very real artistic importance. At Bath there may be special reasons which make for artistic conservatism. None the less one comes to see that not even the most learned and convincing *laudatores temporis acti* can indefinitely justify a policy whereby artistic Humpty Dumpties are replaced within their bomb-shaken walls. The hard fact is that Hitler and his bombs did, for good or ill, achieve a great deal, and that history is not a force which one can always flout. I wonder what Sir David Eccles thinks of it all?

EVENTS AND COMMENTS



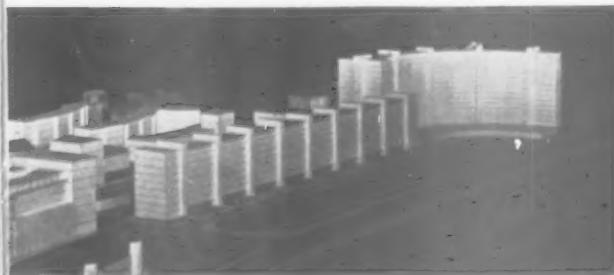
THE R.A.C. MEMORIAL

Here are two photographs of the model of the winning design for the Royal Armoured Corps Memorial by Mr. A. E. Sean Crampton, M.C., G.M. The group represents a tank crew in action with the tank removed. The sculptor has caught some of the tenseness and drama of fighting a battle inside a small steel box, but whether the artistic licence of leaving the tank out is justified I do not know. The likeness of a tank was, by the way, ruled out in the conditions of the competition. The figures provide a good straightforward sculptured group, but it seems to me that the plinth is all wrong, for it is neither a plinth for sculpture nor a tank. It might be a landing craft, or a chunk of ice carrying an early form of bobsleigh and its crew. By its shape it is bound to be associated with the group, and in my opinion will detract from its success.

THE DOVER FLATS

I am interested to note that the Royal Fine Art Commission has made virtually the same criticisms of the winning design that I made on October 8. I do not claim any particular merit for this, for the criticism is based on obvious defects. The Dover Town Council has discussed the letter from the R.F.A.C. and has decided to go ahead with the scheme with modifications. The Council, it is said, is prepared to consider modifications of the design





Model of the Winning Design for the Dover Flats' Competition.

to meet the requirements of the Commission so far as such modifications are reasonable and practicable. This attitude is most helpful, but the real trouble is that the winning scheme is the wrong solution to the problem, and, short of redesigning it, I do not see how it is to be much improved and yet provide the Dover Corporation with what it requires. It is all very unfortunate, and is just the sort of thing that scares clients away from the competition system.

SOCIAL REALISM AT THE A.A.

Mr. John Berger bludgeoned the brains of A.A. members for an hour when he spoke last week on "The Theory and Practice of Art in the Soviet Union." Mr. Berger put such nervous force into his talk that I could not help admiring him. As far as I could make out he could have said what he had to say in quite a short time, and it was this; that Soviet art is admittedly, by our standards, very bad but the public likes it. Therefore it is a virile art, and therefore good. Everyone who can afford to buy oil paintings in Russia because oil paintings are such good things to have even if incompetently executed. Mr. Berger said, among many other things, that he saw queues waiting outside the picture galleries for opening time. What he did not say was that the people were going to hear the guides lecturing on the events which led to the pictures being painted and not to look at the paintings as such. In proposing a vote of thanks Mr. Robert Furneaux Jordan remained dexterously poised on the fence, but in seconding Mr. John Summerson said quite frankly that it was well known that Soviet art was a subject of absolutely no interest. It was, nevertheless, an interesting evening, partly because no one has ever, as far as I know, shouted quite so loudly about anything at the A.A. and partly because several speakers strongly disagreed with Mr. Berger, but none of those who might have been expected to support him said a word. Mr. Berger answered some questions but omitted to answer one which asked whether the collection of nineteenth-century Western paintings which used to be in the Museum of Modern Art was still available to the public.

NAREY SQUAREY AIRY FAIRY

On another page you will find what an illuminating engineer thinks about architects. He is not very complimentary. He attributes my dislike of some contemporary fittings to "airy fairy fads." Come, sir, you will be accusing me of being long-haired next. I am sure that illuminating engineers have an important place in the world. I think that it is probably in the factory, the school and the workshop. Illuminating engineering is surely the science of providing a certain measured amount of light at a given spot and to hell with what it looks like.

The wretched architect cannot know everything, but he does know usually how he wants his building to look like both in daylight and in artificial light. The proper job for the illuminating engineer is to assist the architect to obtain the required result. It is suggested that architects should know all about illuminating engineering; this is nonsense; what is wanted is a course in aesthetics for illuminating engineers.

FROM SAUCHIEHALL STREET TO LA CANNEBIÈRE

Last week I mentioned the high flats outside Glasgow. Now I hear that the Corporation is sending a deputation to inspect L'Unité d'Habitation in Marseilles. The Corporation is doing this because it has decided to clear large areas of slums and to rehouse the inhabitants on the same sites. I hope that the difference in daylight factors in Marseilles and Glasgow will be taken into consideration.

HANDS OFF THE CITY OF LONDON

It has suddenly occurred to me that it would be disastrous to rebuild the city as Sir David Eccles has suggested that we should. It would for one thing destroy the illusion of mystery where father is "something in the city," and it might remove for ever the setting for livery liverymen to make those outbursts of philistinism which come so readily to their lips after turtle soup, turbot, capon, rice pudding and Taylor's '27. The City should be rebuilt, said Sir Harold Webbe, M.P., last week, "but not as a place for rubbernecks from the Continent to come and look at, but as a real City to be filled with real people." "I have no small admiration for architects," he said, "but we want the moderating hand of people who are not artists. I am scared stiff of artists." He pointed out how the natural beauties of London's parks were defaced by the stone monstrosities made by artists. "I am scared that this ward of Aldersgate may turn out like that horror of horrors the Festival Hall." . . . "we want to build something solid, something permanent and above all something British."

Just imagine how dull life would be without speeches like this. I say hands off the city of London! Let them rebuild it how they will.

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS TO THE STUDENTS

Architectural students could have no surer friend nor wiser counsellor than Mr. Howard Robertson. His speech to Students delivered at the R.I.B.A. yesterday was a model, and I very much hope that all interested in architectural education will read it, be they students or teachers.

A B N E R

NEWS OF THE WEEK

The Nuffield Foundation Division for Architectural Studies

In 1948 the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust established a research team to investigate the functions and design of hospitals. The original programme of studies was completed during 1953, interim reports on various aspects of the work have already appeared in the medical and architectural press, and the Investigation's final report will be published during 1954. Experimental hospital buildings, designed to test and demonstrate the team's conclusions, are in construction and plans and descriptions of them have also been published.

The Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust has been urged to make arrangements for continuing research into hospitals on a more permanent basis. At the same time the Nuffield Foundation has been approached by other bodies who wish to see the methods of the hospital investigation applied to other types of building. In particular, the Agricultural Research Council suggested to the Foundation that it would be useful if such studies could be applied to the problems of laboratory design and farm buildings. The trustees of the Nuffield Foundation, after consultation with the trustees of the Nuffield Provincial Hospital Trust, have therefore decided to establish, as part of the Foundation's headquarters' organization, in the first place for a period of ten years, a Division for Architectural Studies. The Division came into being on January 1, 1954, and will be occupied in the first instance with continuing investigations into hospitals and with a study of research laboratories. The Royal Institute of British Architects has been informed of the proposal. It has welcomed the Foundation's initiative and expressed its readiness to collaborate.

A controlling committee has been set up to guide the work of the Division. The membership of the committee is as follows:—

Mr. L. Farrer-Brown, Director of the Nuffield Foundation (Chairman); Sir William Holford, F.R.I.B.A.; Dr. F. M. Lea, Director of the Building Research Station, Garston; Mr. E. W. Playfair, C.B.; Sir Ernest Rock Carling, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P.; Sir William Slater, Secretary of the Agricultural Research Council.

The director of the new Division will be Mr. Richard Llewelyn Davies, M.A., A.R.I.B.A. (present director of the Investigation into the Functions and Design of Hospitals).

The Division's method of work will be similar to that established by the team which has been studying



Mr. George W. Grosvenor, the new President of the N.F.B.T.E.

hospitals. This team included architects, a doctor, a nurse, an historian and a statistician as well as other workers. Thus each project undertaken by the Division will be studied by a group of workers with appropriate qualifications and experience. The Division will continue the arrangement for joint work established between the Investigation and the Building Research Station. Thus building-science studies arising from the Division's work will be carried on jointly with the Building Research Station. Members of the Division's staff will be seconded to the Station for this purpose.

In the hospital field the Division plans, on behalf of the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust, to make the problem of the care of children in hospital the first centre of its studies. In the study of laboratories attention will be focused, in the first instance, on research laboratories rather than on those designed primarily for teaching. The work of the Division will be published from time to time in appropriate journals and in the form of reports.

R.I.B.A. Lecture Postponed

The lecture on "Changing Ideas on Colour with some Technical Implications," which was to have been given by Mr. H. S. Gloag, A.R.I.B.A. and Mr. David L. Medd, A.R.I.B.A. at the R.I.B.A. on March 23 next, has been postponed to a date to be announced later.

The lecturers intended to discuss colour range design in general, and the R.I.B.A. Range of Paint Colours for Building (recently approved in principle by the Council) in particular. As, however, this range is now being examined in detail by representatives of the paint industry, it has been thought desirable to postpone the lecture until the result of this examination is known and the necessary joint consultation between the Royal Institute and the Industry takes place.

It is hoped to make a further announcement on the subject at an early date.

R.I.B.A. Library Group

The next meeting of the Library Group will take place on February 8, at 6 p.m. Mr. Anthony Avenell, A.R.I.B.A., will give an illustrated talk on the rebuilding of Blandford after the disastrous fire of 1731. Slides will be shown and a number of old books and maps by the brothers Bastard will be on display.

Professor Matthew in U.S.A.

Professor R. H. Matthew has been granted leave of absence by Edinburgh University to visit the School of Architecture at the University of California in Berkeley and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston to study post-graduate methods of architectural research.

APPOINTMENTS

Lieutenant-Colonel A. E. Henson, F.R.I.B.A., F.I.A.A. & S., A.I.Struct.E., has been elected President of the Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors. Lieutenant-Colonel Henson is a partner in the firm of Sir John Brown, A. E. Henson and Partners, of London and Northampton.

Mr. Richard Alport Williams, M.B.E., B.Arch. (L'pool), A.R.I.B.A., has been appointed Deputy County Architect to the Lancashire County Council. Mr. Williams has been Deputy County Architect to the Cumberland County Council since 1948.

Mr. John Foster, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., A.R.I.C.S., of Bakewell, has been appointed Planning Officer to the Peak Planning Board in succession to the late Mr. A. L. Oldacre. Mr. Foster has, since 1952, been deputy planning officer to the Board. Previous appointments were with Kirkcudbright and Lincs County Councils. Mr. Foster is 32. During the war he served with the Air Ministry in Scotland.

COMING EVENTS

Students' Planning Group.

February 8 at 6.30 p.m. Talk on "Planning in Europe and Great Britain," by F. J. Osborn, Chairman of Executive, Town and Country Planning Association, at 28, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

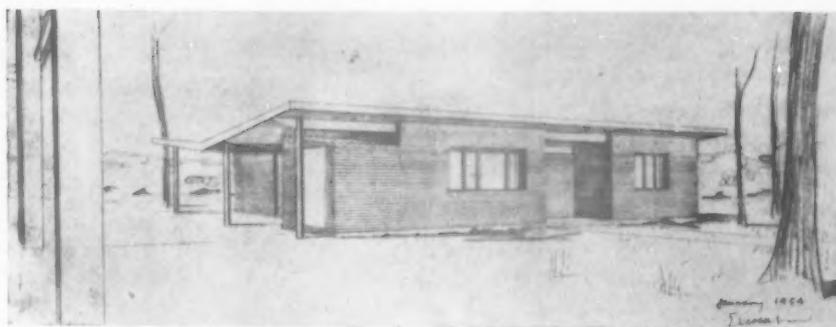
Royal Society of Arts.

February 10 at 2.30 p.m. Talk on "Shops and Shopping in the Past Two Centuries," by Professor A. E. Richardson, R.A., F.R.I.B.A., at John Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.2.

CORRECTIONS

On page 81 of the *A. & B. N.* issue 21 January, 1954, Fig. 5, the school by Louis de Soissons & Partners is Whiteleigh Primary School, Plymouth. General contractors: John Garrett & Son, Ltd. Fig. 6 on the same page is Heathy Knowe Primary School, East Kilbride for the East Kilbride Development Corporation. Chief architect: F. C. Scott.

On page 97 in the same issue, the specification of the Buildmaster crane should have read— "Maximum load 1½ tons to 90ft 7in with a reach of 23ft."



The design that is the subject of the inquiry.

OBJECTION TO "BUTTERFLY" ROOF

THE trend of architectural design in rural areas was the subject of questions at a planning inquiry at High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, on Tuesday.

A proposal to build a bungalow farmhouse, designed by Erno Goldfinger, was opposed by Bucks County Council, on the grounds that the design of the building, incorporating a "butterfly" type of roof, would clash with the surrounding countryside and the traditional types of architecture.

The inquiry, conducted by Mr. F. W. Foster-Turner, F.R.I.B.A., Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, was into an appeal by Idlecombe Farms, the building owners, against the refusal of Bucks County Council to grant planning permission for the erection of a bungalow as a farmhouse west of Turville Heath Farm, Turville Heath.

Bucks County Council had refused planning permission on the grounds that, having regard to "the high scenic value of the area generally, and of the Turville valley in particular, a bungalow of the design proposed would be out of keeping with the character of the surrounding countryside and buildings."

"This is not the place where one can afford to carry out work, which is, as I see it, experimental to some extent, in case it does not come off," said Mr. P. L. Seville, representing Bucks County Council.

Mrs. N. M. Abbott, who also represented her husband, Mr. C. P. Abbott, her co-partner in Idlecombe Farms, told the Inspector that they had commissioned Mr. Goldfinger to design the farmhouse and farm buildings in woodland on the south side of the Turville valley. The farmhouse and farm buildings would form a little entity of their own.

"My husband and I," she said, "take great delight in this countryside and we should like to put up buildings which are beautiful as well as serviceable. We have gone to a man whom we consider to be one of the best architects in practice precisely because aesthetic considerations do appeal to us very much."

The cottage, she said, was for the occupation of their farm manager.

They felt the design of the cottage was simple and beautiful. They might have been prepared to waive the matter of the roof if they had not found themselves up against a practical difficulty. The sitting-room fireplace, which controlled hot water radiators in the sitting-room itself and in all three bedrooms, was on the outside wall and they could not put the fireplace on the inside wall because the pipes for the radiator runs could not go under the doors.

It was proposed to use traditional materials for the cottage, of mellowed brick. Even the roof construction was the same as was used in Regency houses. It was true that in the Chilterns the style of building had changed slowly, but it had changed and in every age people had built according to the genuine style of the period. If they copied some previous style it became a falsification and the integrity of the aesthetic design was lost.

She added that they felt that a low building such as they proposed was particularly charming in woodland. Its horizontal lines and plain surfaces, in contrast to the upright line and decorative quality of the trees, seemed to them rather beautiful.

Answering questions by Mr. Seville, Mr. Goldfinger said the building was designed especially for the site in question and the surroundings had been carefully considered.

Mr. Seville said that while Mr. Goldfinger's design might look very nice in some areas they were worried about the effect of this particular type of roof in this countryside, near buildings very much older and in an area where they had very strong local tradition.

Mr. Goldfinger pointed out that there were no buildings within 700ft of the proposed farmhouse. Mr. and Mrs. Abbott had commissioned him to get out something which formed a workable unit, aesthetically satisfactory, and this design, he felt, fitted well into the mellow landscape of high trees and soft hills.

He felt the design was in keeping with the real tradition of the countryside and with what had been done in the 18th century and the 19th century. The new trend was traditional, since the great tradition was progress.

Mr. H. S. Tong, Area Planning

Officer, said the charm of this locality rested not only on the naturally wooded hills and valleys but on the old and unspoiled villages and the fine old farms and farmhouses spread about the area. These buildings were very largely built in the local materials of flint and brick with tiled roofs.

Replying to the appellants' claim that the proposed building was in the tradition of farmhouses, Mr. Tong commented: "In my opinion tradition has always required the principal dwelling accommodation of a farm to be a house of some substance, almost invariably of two storeys, and situated right in or immediately adjoining the farm buildings. While one could not object to a bungalow as such being used as dwelling accommodation of a farm, it is suggested that any such building, whether contemporary in design or otherwise, should be designed and built in traditional materials in keeping with the locality and the general amenities of the countryside."

Mr. Goldfinger's design, he suggested, was of such a shape and design, character and nature as to be completely out of place in a purely agricultural and rural area. Indeed, it would constitute an unwarrantable intrusion of an incompatible style injurious to the amenities of the locality. It might be that in a residential area, and in particular in a New Town, where all the buildings would be of a contemporary or modern design, the form of construction proposed in this case would be more readily acceptable.

Mr. Tong added that while he found it difficult to accept the statement that this bungalow farmhouse was "of sound contemporary design," designed with special care for its present situation from the amenity angle, he agreed that the appellants were under no obligation to copy any particular period of architecture or building style of the past. It was, however, strongly represented that it was not essential to have what he believed was referred to as a "butterfly" roof to be contemporary, and that a building of equally "contemporary" or present-day design could be achieved with a pitched roof of the normal shape.

Answering questions by Mr. Seville, Mr. Tong said they had received a number of plans of farmhouses and cottages of modern contemporary types but this was the first with a "butterfly" roof. They felt that the appellants could design a contemporary building with a pitched roof.

When Mr. Goldfinger asked: "Do you consider only a pitched roof is suitable for the countryside?" Mr. Tong replied: "One sees lean-to roofs in the countryside but for this particular bungalow I consider the pitched roof would be better."

Mr. Tong added that they felt that the proposed farmhouse would have no rural aspect about it. It would not look like a farmhouse. The ordinary person looking at it would be startled by the absence of a roof.

Relying to other questions, Mr. Tong said the butterfly roof would be visible, he thought, from ground level, and it was possible that it could also be seen from surrounding high ground.

Mr. Seville said that this was the first design of this kind they had had in this area. They could not agree with Mr. Goldfinger's suggestion that this was in the tradition of farmhouses. If it could be redesigned with a pitched roof, with suitable roof materials, not obviously of a glaring nature, they would be prepared to consider it.

Mrs. Abbatt said she thought this was an opportunity for them to improve on what had been done customarily and make something really beautiful in the modern tradition. She added that the building was not likely to cost less than a council house, and it was not on the grounds of economy that they had had it designed. The design was, however, effecting a considerable economy—about 25 per cent—in timber.

The inquiry was closed and the parties concerned adjourned to visit the site.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Dodo and the Phoenix

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—I was sorry to see in your issue dated January 21 your references to my lecture given the day before at the Royal Society of Arts, called the Dodo and the Phoenix, and telling of the changes in the Royal College of Art since the war. Unfortunately I understand that although a number of copies of the lecture were distributed to the Press before it was delivered, one was not sent to your office. Had it been, a very brief perusal of this lecture would, I think, have sufficed to show that so far from being "insulting to my immediate predecessors," its whole burden was to demonstrate that the arrangements made by the Government for the College's administration (in spite of which as I said they had given such valuable and devoted service) had been responsible for its sorry condition at the close of the war. I referred to the extreme physical handicaps under which Sir William Rothenstein had suffered, and paid a special tribute to my immediate predecessor, Mr. Percy Jowett, whose tenacious administration of the College during its wartime exile is too often forgotten.

I went on to disclaim personal responsibility for any rejuvenation which had taken place since then, and to say that this was due to the wisdom, forethought and generosity of the present officers of the Ministry of Education in providing it with fine accommodation and equipment, and in giving it independence and a sound constitution. For the rest, I said that the College's present vitality was due to the delegation to the teaching staff themselves on an organized basis the prime responsibility for running it.

I am not at all afraid of anyone misunderstanding the tenor of my talk if



See letter below, "Houses 1953"

they read it when it is published in the R.S.A. journal; but I should not like those readers of "*The Architect*" who do not do so, to think that I could have been guilty of such complacency as your note suggests; nor of such bad manners and bad faith to those from whom the College has inherited so much.

I am, etc.,
ROBIN DARWIN.

Houses 1953

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—I have read with care and interest Mr. Tayler's "critical review of Houses 1953," and while I do not agree with all his views, I think that much of what he said was well worth saying.

It is a pity, however, that he introduced at one or two points what might be taken to be biased comments on the work of private and official architects. This, in my view, is particularly unfortunate as one of the lessons, as I understand it, which "Houses 1953" sets out to teach is that housing is an architect's job from start to finish and any suggestion of division between private and official architects should be avoided. I am sure Mr. Tayler will agree with me on this as he makes the former point himself in many places.

I must also take him to task about the accuracy of his remark handing out credit for improved corner development to "private architects . . . at

Harlow and elsewhere." Here in Manchester, corner cottage flats of varying plan forms have been in use since 1946. These were, of course, designed by an official architect and I enclose a photograph of two examples. I agree that these are not linked to a terrace at both ends but this was done intentionally in order to let some light and air into what could be a very tight corner.

As further evidence that the architectural problems of corner sites have been appreciated for a long time I enclose another photograph showing an external angle house as built in 1929 at Wythenshawe which, quite incidentally, was being built as a new town long before "New Towns" were thought of.

I am not claiming any credit on behalf of Manchester for this form of development, as quite possibly the same or better solutions were found somewhere else at an earlier date, but at least these examples pre-date "Harlow and elsewhere" by many years.

I am, etc.,
A. MACKENZIE,
Director of Housing,
Manchester.

CORRECTION

In the letter from Mr. Evans Palmer in last week's issue a figure was dropped from the cost of his houses at Horley, which should have read £650 each.



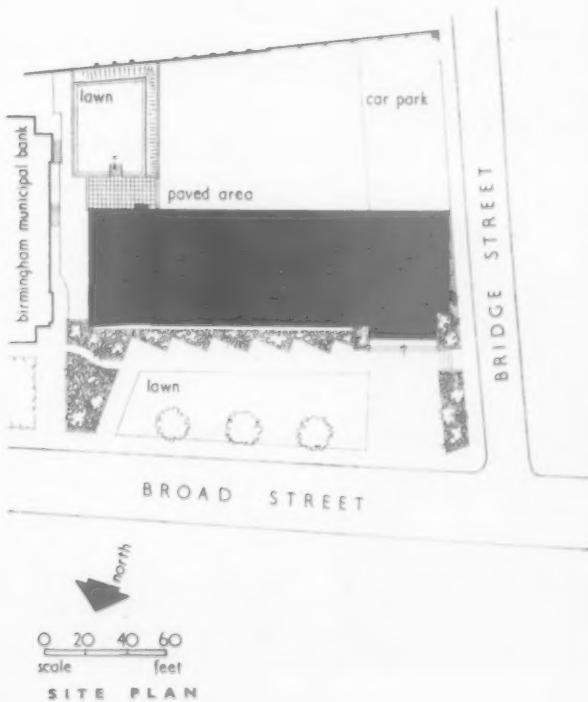


Broad Street elevation at night. The picture at the bottom of the page is of the same elevation by day.

COLLEGE OF COMMERCE, BIRMINGHAM

architect: ALEXANDER STEELE, D.A.(Edin.), A.R.I.B.A.

Former Architect to the Birmingham Education Committee

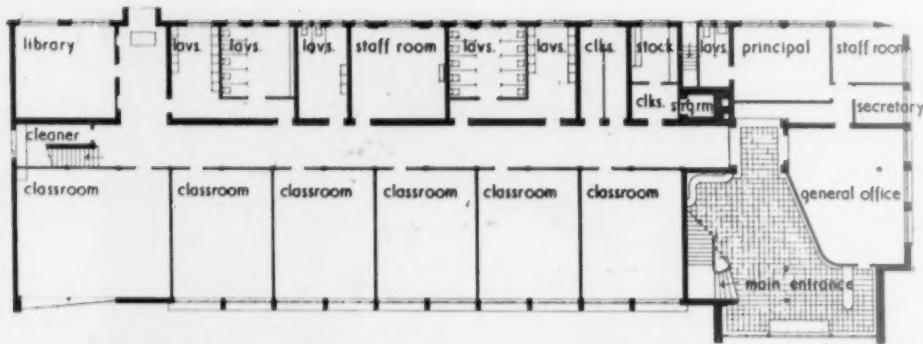


THE College is built on a site formerly occupied by Messrs. Rabone, Ltd., whose premises were destroyed by air raids during the war. The site is conveniently situated in a central position of the City. It has been planned to provide temporary accommodation for about 400 students, together with Administrative Offices, etc., pending the provision of new permanent Colleges for Technical, Commercial and Art Education in Corporation Street.

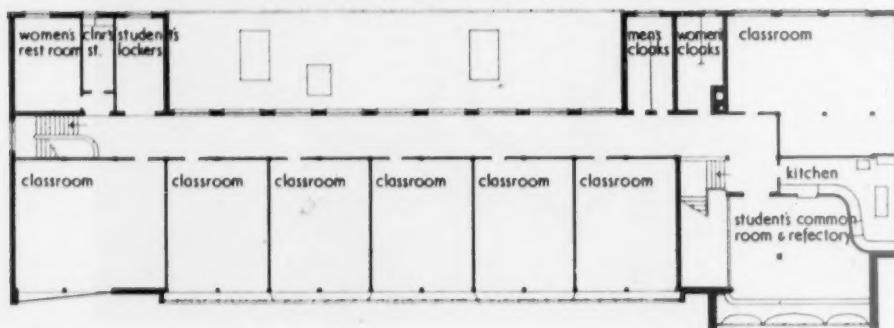
The building, which has been set back to the improvement line which allows for future road widening, contains the following accommodation: 13 Classrooms; Library,

[Continued on page 139]



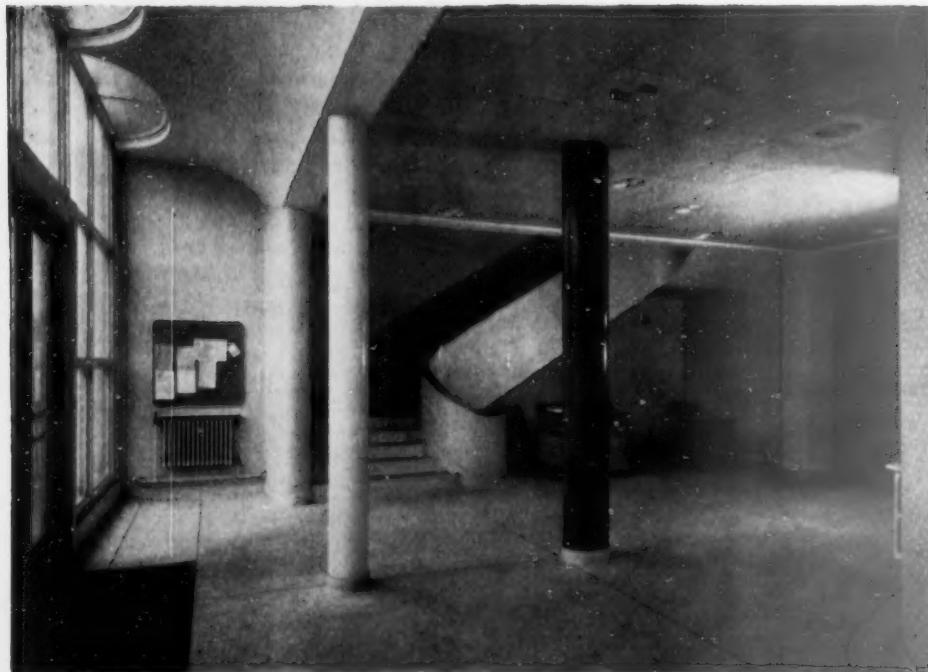


GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR

College of Commerce, Birmingham



The entrance hall which is paved with white terrazzo. The suspended ceiling is of fibreboard.

Architect: A. Steele

Quantity Surveyors:
Silk & Frazier

Engineering Services:
Hoare, Lea & Partners

Steelwork and Concrete
Consultant: S. Willis

General Contractors:
C. Green & Sons, Ltd.

Subcontractors:

Bituminous Roofing:
General Asphalt Co., Ltd.

Chain Link Fencing and Gates:
Parker Winder & Achurch, Ltd.

Cloakroom Fittings:
Parker Winder & Achurch, Ltd.

Cycle Park:
Alfred Odoni & Co., Ltd.

Electrical Installation:
Reynolds & Bradwell, Ltd.

Facing Bricks:
Blockleys, Ltd.

Fibrous Plaster:
Bryant's Adamanta, Ltd.

Flooring:
The Granwood Flooring Co., Ltd.

Glazing:
Merrick & Heath, Ltd.

Hardware:
Mountford Bros., Ltd.

Heating Installation:
Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd.

Metal Windows & Pressed Metal-work:
Henry Hope & Sons, Ltd.

Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd.

Plastering:
E. B. Trumper & Sons (Birmingham), Ltd.

Plumbing:
A. Howell, Ltd.

Portland Stonework:
G. V. Williams & Sons, Ltd.

Sanitary Fittings:
J. W. Rains, Ltd.

Structural Steelwork:
Dunlop & Ranken, Ltd.

E. C. & J. Keay, Ltd.

Suspended Fibreboard Ceilings:
Rudders & Paynes, Ltd.

Suspended Floors and Roof:
The Klein Co., Ltd.

Tarpaving:
Birmingham Asphalt & Paving Co., Ltd.

Terrazzo Floors and Stairs:
Marboline Company, Ltd.



1



3



2



4

1. The Principal's Study on the ground floor.

2. The students' refectory over the entrance hall.

3. A classroom, in this case for geography.

4. Large staff room on the ground floor.

Continued from page 137

Students' Common Room and Refectory; Womens' rest room; Administrative offices and enquiry; Rooms for the Principal and Staff; Students' Cloakrooms and Offices; Stockrooms, Stores, etc.

The classrooms are planned on two floors along the Broad Street frontage with connecting corridors giving access to cloakrooms, offices, etc., and an exit to paved terrace, cycle park, and recreation space at the rear.

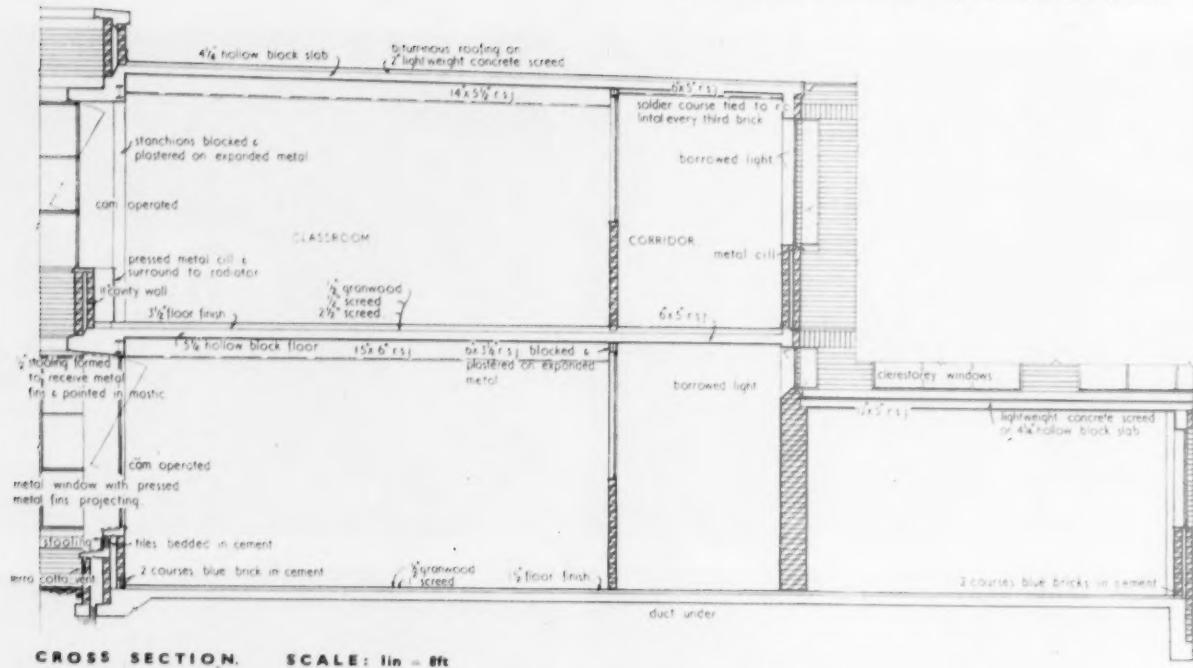
The main entrance from Broad Street is spacious and adjoins the administrative offices. A special architectural feature in the design of this entrance is the large steel-framed window which provides excellent interior lighting to the entrance and staircase, also to the students' refectory on the first floor. The entrance floor and stairs are finished in white terrazzo. The suspended fibre board ceilings are

fitted with recessed lighting fittings. Large windows are also provided to each classroom with opening casements giving adequate light and ventilation.

The boiler house and fuel storage are located in the basement at the Bridge Street end of the building from which a duct runs under the ground floor corridor to accommodate heating mains and services. Heating throughout is by means of radiators with an accelerated low pressure hot water heating apparatus, and a domestic hot water supply.

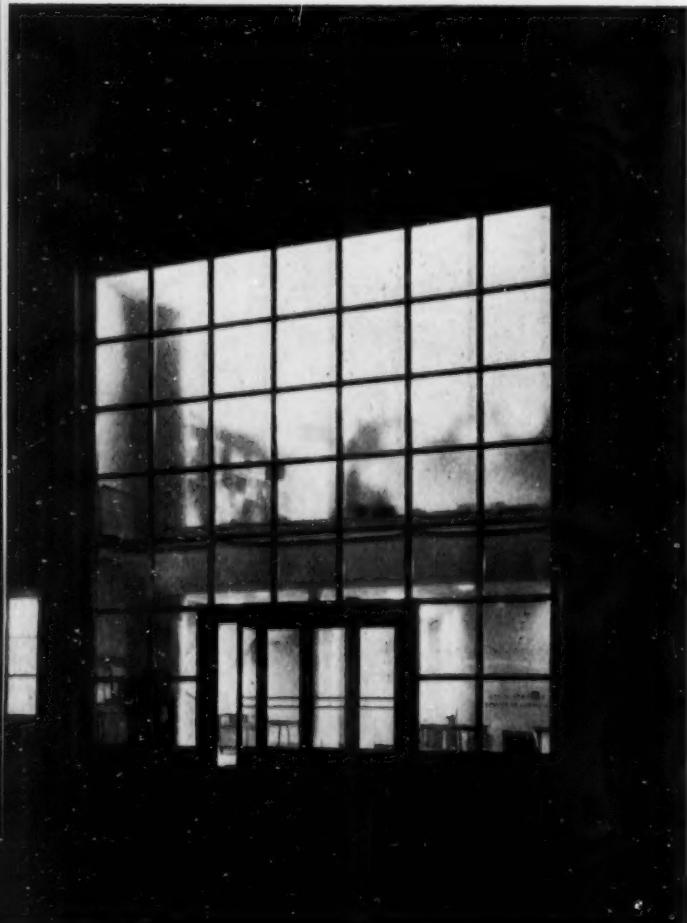
The colour scheme for internal decorations takes account of the fact that most classrooms have a northerly aspect, and in these rooms the wall opposite the window is kept very light to reflect as much light as possible, while the side walls are treated with warmer shades to prevent

E



College of Commerce, Birmingham

The large steel-framed window to the main entrance seen at night. The Student's refectory is on the first floor.



the rooms appearing cold. The entrance hall and refectory are treated as a unit, because they are seen externally as one large room. The wall papers in this section were chosen to accentuate the curved and splayed lines of the walls.

Provision has been made in all classrooms for radio, and a number of rooms have plugs available for cine projection. A system of impulse electric clocks in classrooms and other principal rooms has also been provided.

The College has been furnished on modern lines, and fittings of special design have been provided in several rooms, notably the staff room where each lecturer has the use of a separate desk.

The construction of the building is in steel framing with walls of brick. The wing walls of main entrance and the elevation overlooking the Municipal Bank are faced with Portland Stone. Owing to the nature of ground and existence on the site of old cellars and basements of the demolished buildings, it was necessary to provide adequate reinforced concrete foundations and floors.

All sanitary offices are planned at the rear of the building to facilitate drainage work and sewer connections and to dispense with unsightly pipes on the front elevation.

The forecourt to Broad Street, which has been laid out with flower beds, shrubs, and lawn by the City of Birmingham Public Works and Parks Department, provides additional interest to the design of the College.

The cost of the building contract amounted to approximately £54,000.



Two Conversions in London's West End

designed by: ADAM GELISTER



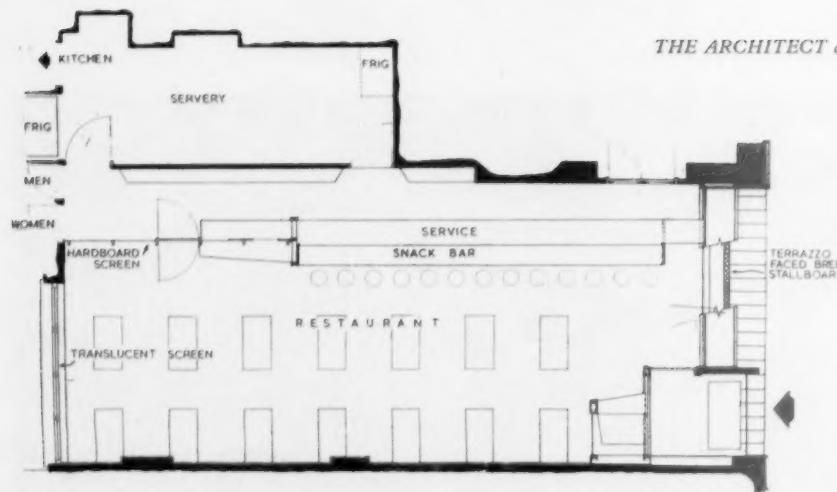
THESE two conversions, the first for a firm of wholesale and retail textile merchants, Anglo-Regent-Tex, the second for M. Biedak, the restaurateur, were completed in the latter part of 1953. No. 68 Park Lane was originally a hairdresser's establishment. No. 14 Denman Street has been occupied by M. Biedak for a number of years.

Biedak's Restaurant

The shopfront and fascia were constructed in natural ash framing with Tygan plastic panels sealed between two sheets of glass. The projecting transom is mahogany and carries free standing metal box-type lettering with recessed red neon lights.

The stall riser is black terrazzo with vertical inserts of Duralumin and has 1in diameter aluminium vents. The coved plinth and threshold is in cream terrazzo, the lobby floor black terrazzo. The vestibule partition is made of buff sandfaced bricks, the left-hand wall is lined with beige Formica in 12in panels with $\frac{1}{2}$ in dividing bands in red. The entrance door and winglights are $\frac{1}{2}$ in armourplate with 3in diameter ash spheres. The draught-screen door is in natural ash, the window bed and riser of Formica.

The interior wall behind the snack bar is faced with 12in wide Wareite divided vertically with mahogany strips. The waiters' screen is panelled with stove-



Biedak's Restaurant :
Interior view and sketch
plan. Scale 10ft to 1in.



Two Conversions in London's West End

enamelled hardboard in an ash frame and mahogany cornice. The existing back window is concealed by a diagonal lattice in $\frac{1}{2}$ in by 1in softwood with ash hemispheres and convex mirrors alternately on the cross-pieces.

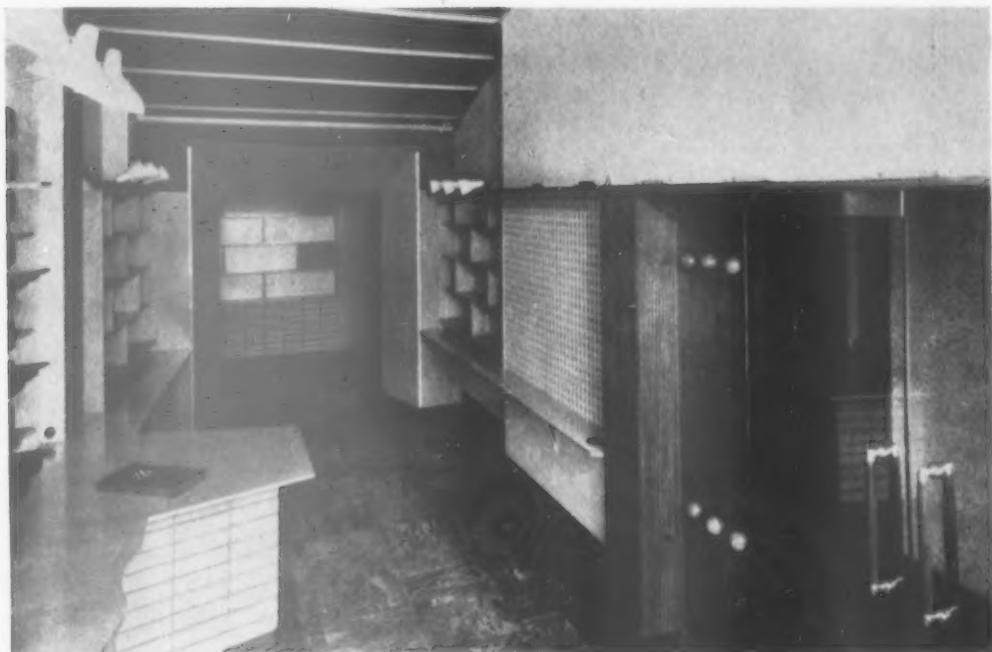
A special feature of the snack-bar counter is the tapered turned columns in ash, which support a $\frac{1}{2}$ in plate-glass counter top, Formica panelled front and bleached mahogany counter sub-tops. Stools are red Vynide tops with stove-enamelled steel tubular frames. The tungsten lighting is in opal globes or maroon vertical aluminium

louvred shades with top and bottom transparent plastic sheets, over the counter, and spot concealed lighting to front and back windows.

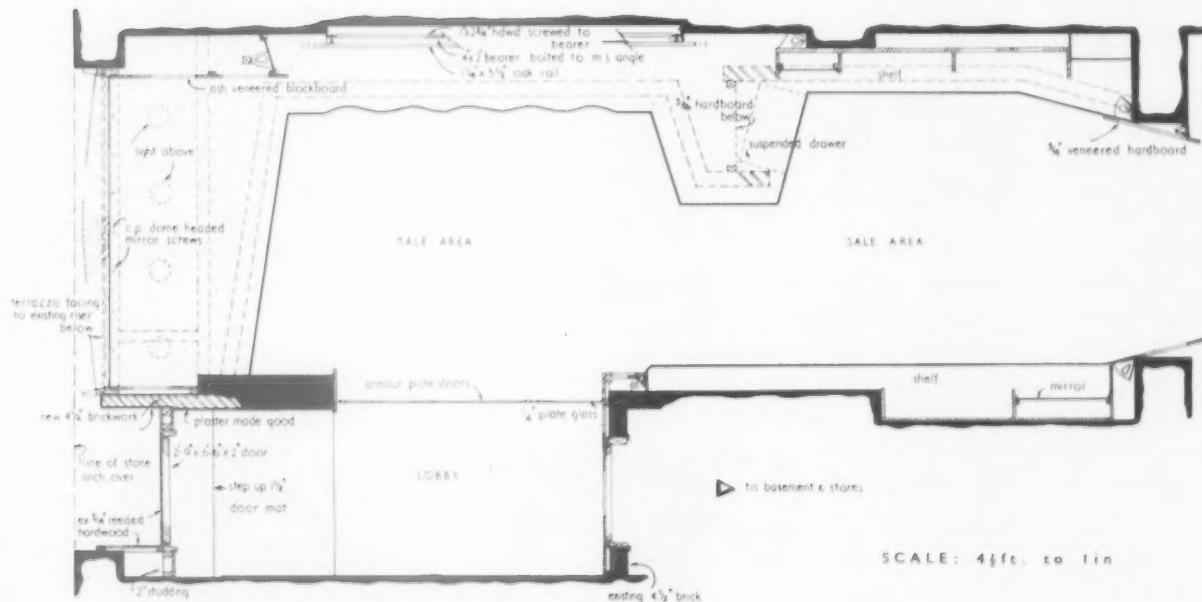
Anglo-Regent-Tex

This small office in Park Lane has been designed to display textiles to both wholesale and retail buyers. The original shop was a hairdresser's and the conversion was undertaken with the minimum of structural alteration.

One point of interest is the window bed in ash veneered $\frac{1}{2}$ in blockboard which is continued along one side of the



Anglo-Regent-Tex : Interior view and plan.



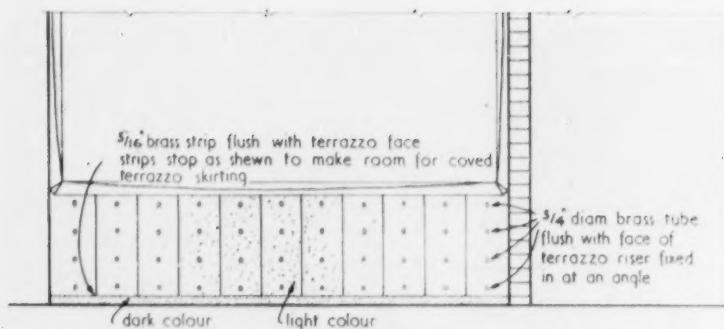
office for the examining of materials. The riser of this shelf is in fair-face sand-faced bricks with dark pointing, the first course is in blue engineering bricks recessed to form a skirting.

The cloth display fittings are in French oak, the adjustable display unit has various sized shelves in oak, mahogany and sycamore, which have interchangeable positions.

The false ceiling is made up of polished Parana pine slats supporting expanded aluminium, anodised gold, in a zig-zag section and curved from front to back. The

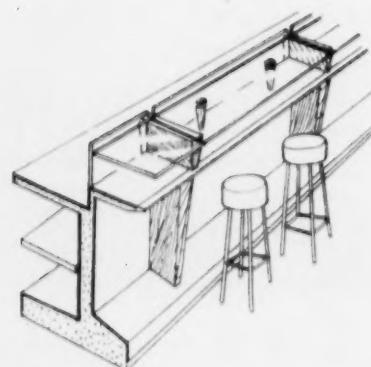
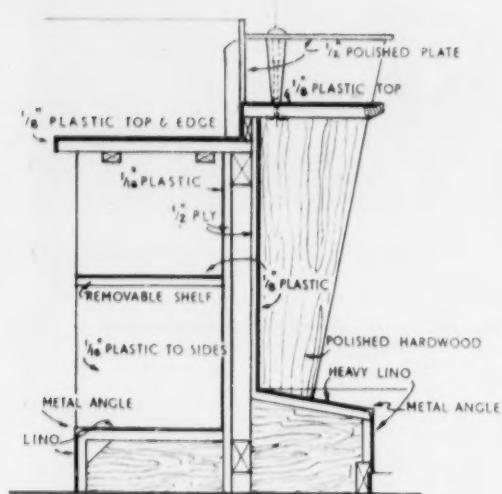
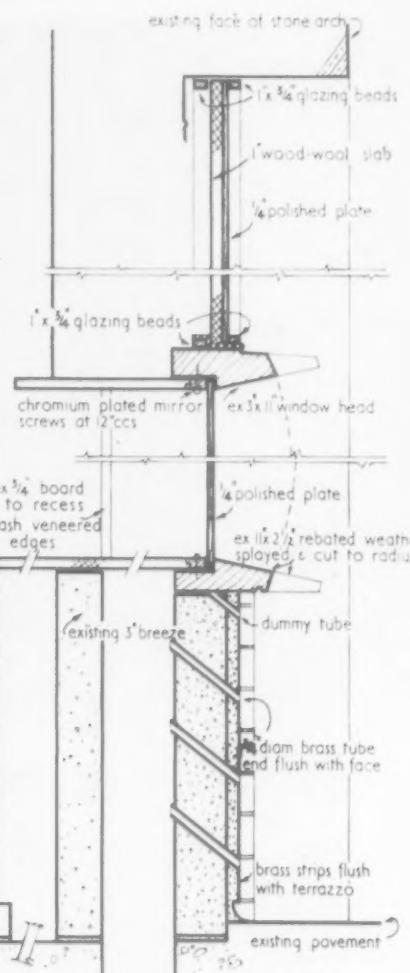
existing ceiling is painted matt black. The back office is divided from the shop by a screen embodying another display fitting in oak.

The walls are covered with papers from Sandersons & Lines, the twin double swing doors are armourplate glass, the existing rubber-tiled floor was retained. The frame to the front window is ash, the glass has a 3in rake. The stallboard is terrazzo divided by brass strips with brass vent tubes at 45 deg. The fascia is a plyglass panel with translucent numerals and stove-enamelled letters.



Shopfront, Anglo-Regent-Tex.
Scales: 1 in = 3 ft & 1 in = 1 ft

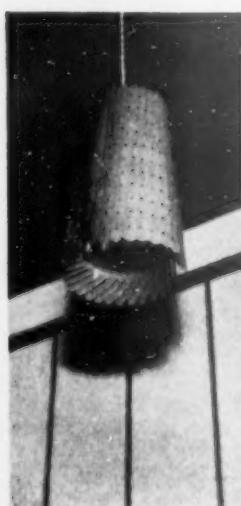
Section



Bar details, Biedak's

General Contractors:

Biedak's Restaurant: Premier Shopfitting Co., Ltd.
Anglo-Regent-Tex: Rudduck & Co. (Shopfitters) Ltd.



**Two Conversions
in London's West End**



COUNDON COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL, COVENTRY
for the Coventry Education Committee

architects : W. S. HATRELL & PARTNERS

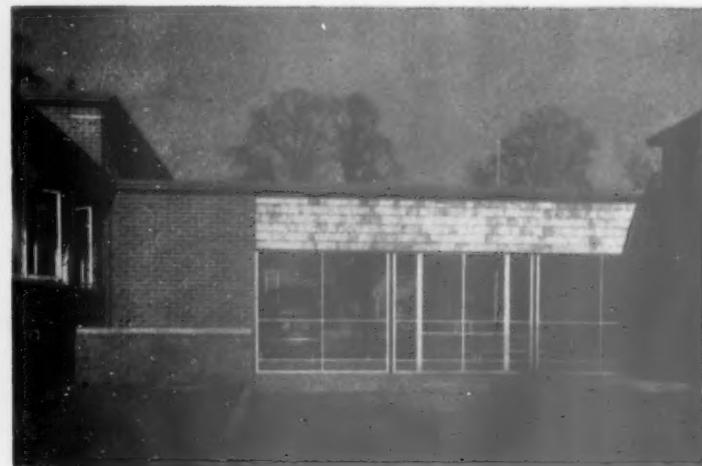
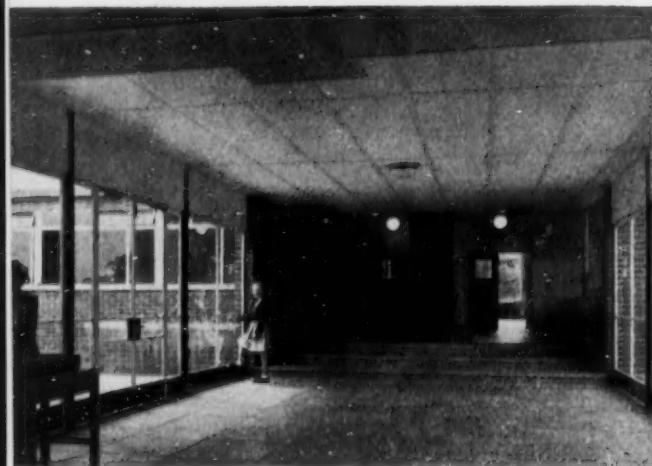
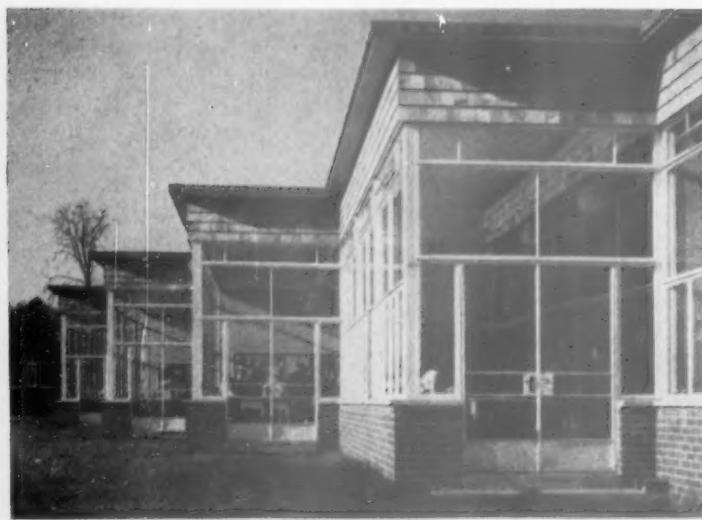


THIS new school was planned to accommodate 320 infant and junior places. The classrooms are orientated to obtain as much sunshine as possible, and this accounts for the large amount of window area. The infant and junior departments are divided by the main entrance and linked by the administration rooms. The main entrance opens directly on to the dining-room which is next to the assembly hall.

The site was originally two large fields divided by a hedge containing fine large trees. The trees have been retained in the general layout and they separate most of the school buildings from the playing fields which are planned south of the buildings. A caretaker's house is included in the general scheme.

Construction

The structure of the building is planned on an 8ft grid and Brockhouse steel frame construction has been used. Floors are of solid concrete. External walls are

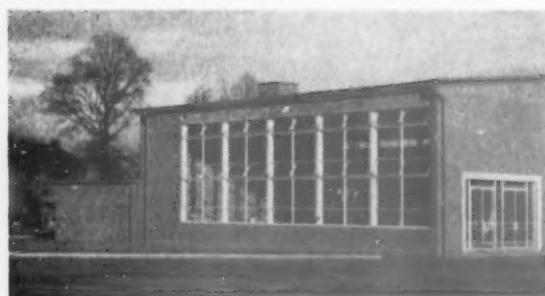


3 4

Coundon Court School

1. A typical Infants' classroom.
2. Staggered arrangement of Junior classrooms.
3. Interior of entrance hall.
4. Exterior of main entrance.
5. Exterior of assembly hall.

5

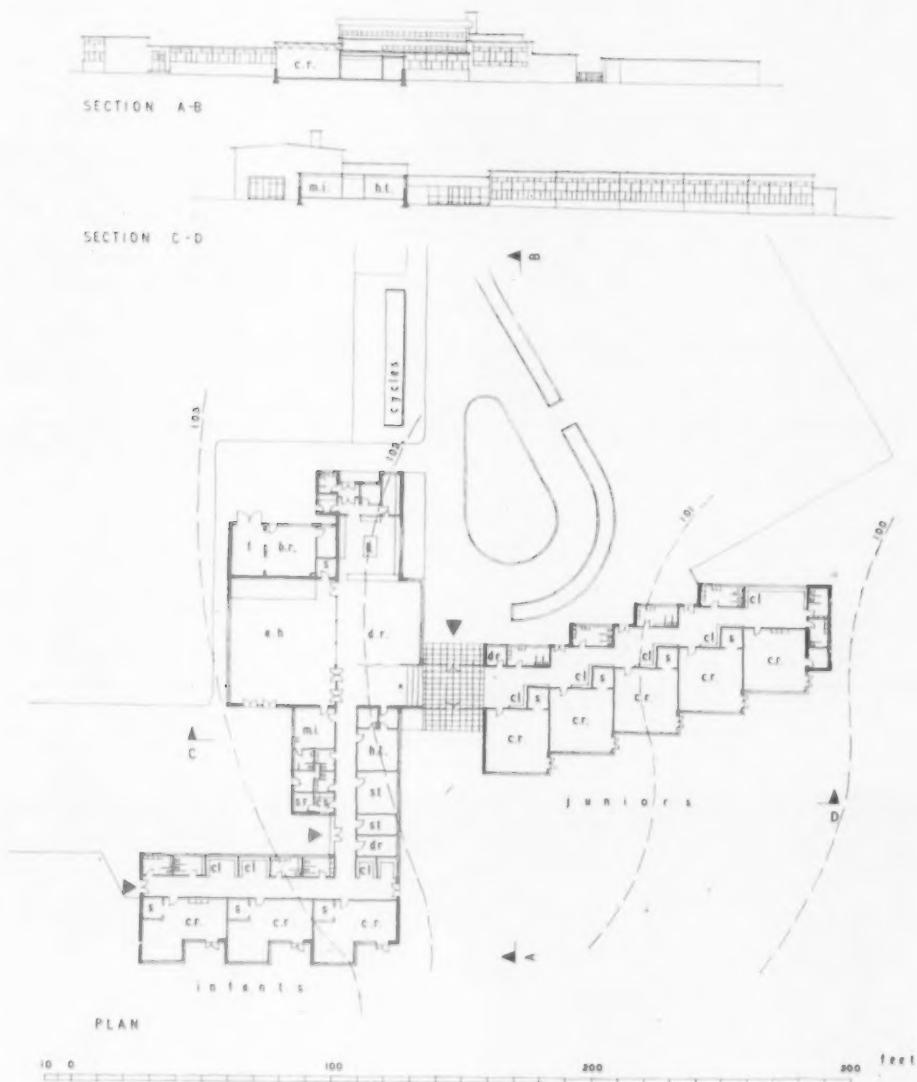


11in. cavity faced with brown flint bricks. The roof is constructed of Briggs aluminium decking covered with built-up bituminous felt. Above windows, vertical wall surfaces are faced with Cedar Shingles, which also are used for the roof covering of the caretaker's house. Facings to the caretaker's house are brown flint

bricks to match the school. The house which is one storey high, has three bedrooms, living room and kitchen-dining room.

Internal finishes

Floors in classrooms and the assembly hall are beech wood block; corridors, cloakrooms, lavatories, kitchen



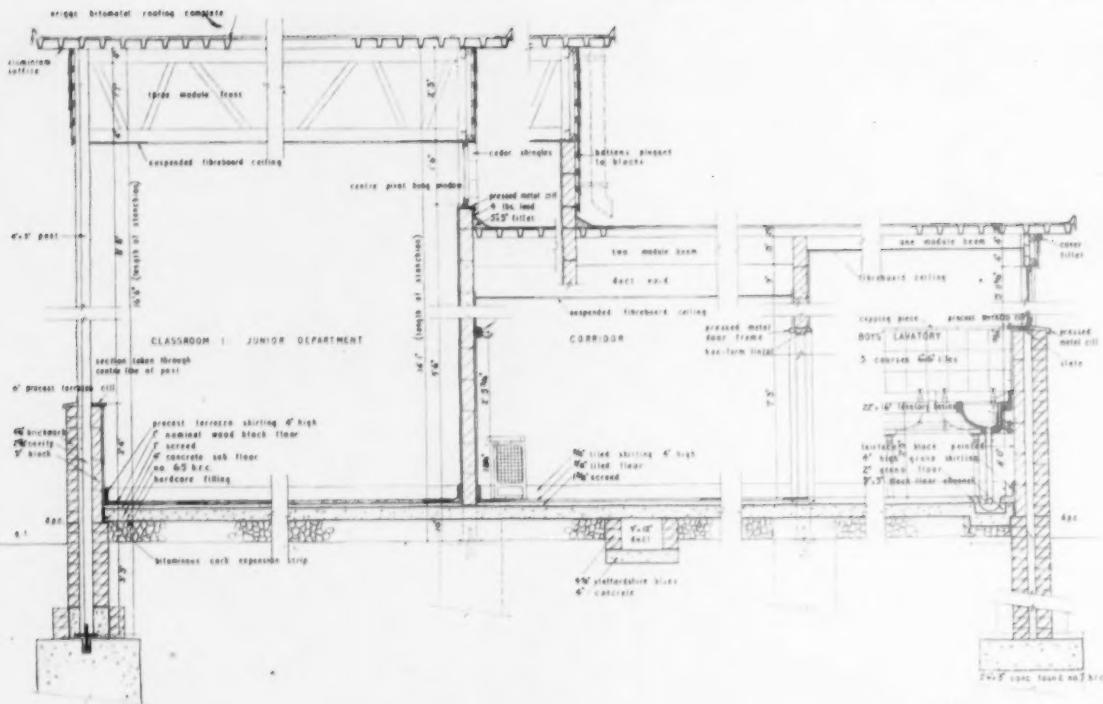
and storerooms are finished in concrete tiles ; administration rooms and the dining room in Accotile flooring.

Walls are plastered generally, with some areas in fair faced brickwork. Ceilings throughout are suspended fibreboard. The whole of the interior has been treated as colourfully as possible ; but bearing in mind problems of maintenance, the number of basic colours has been kept down.

Services

Heating is by low pressure hot water. The consultants for the mechanical services were Winton Thorpe Tunndine and Partners.

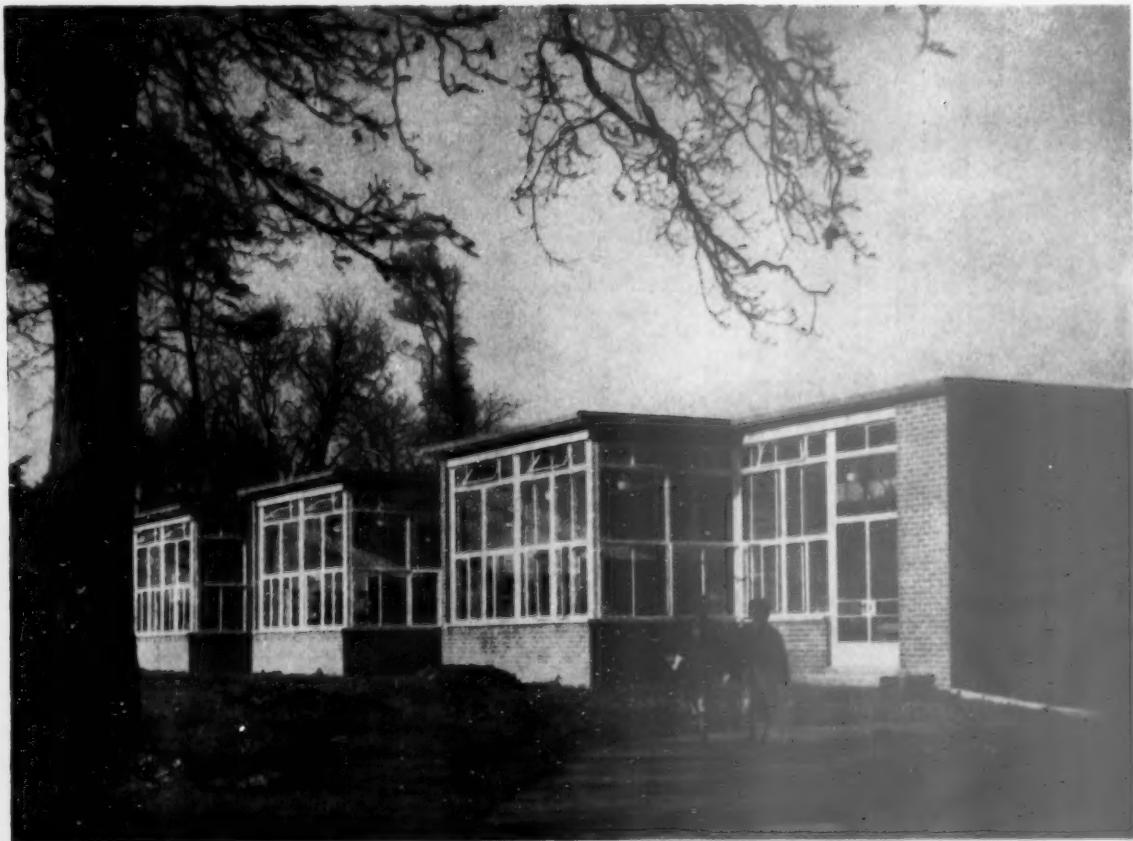
General Contractors: H. Clarke & Sons, Ltd.
Bitumetal Roofing: William Briggs & Sons, Ltd. **Cedar Shingles:** W. H. Colt (London), Ltd. **Ceiling Panels:** Peters Contractors, Ltd. **Cloakroom Fittings:** Cloakroom Equipment, Ltd. **Concrete Buff Slab Paving and Reconstructed Stone Cills:** Trem Concrete, Ltd. **Dome Lights:** T. & W. Ide, Ltd. **Electrical Installation:** The Thompson Electrical Co. **Facing Bricks:** Uxbridge Flint Brick Co., Ltd. **Flush Doors:** L. P. Thomas & Co., Ltd. **Gates and Railings:** Scaffolding (Great Britain), Ltd. **Graniton Tile Paving:** Caledonian Concrete Co., Ltd. **Heating and Hot Water Service Installation:** W. A. Bennett & Son. **Metal Door Frames:** Henry Hope & Sons, Ltd. **Metal Windows:** Stelwin Construction Co., Ltd. **Mobile Stage Units:** George M. Hammer & Co., Ltd. **Structural framework:** Brockhous Engineering (Southport), Ltd. **Vitreous Concrete Blocks:** Vitreous Concrete Co., Ltd. **Wall Paper:** James Williamson & Son, Ltd. **Window Blinds:** London Blinds, Ltd. **Wood Block, Windsor and Accotile Floors:** R. W. Brooke & Co., Ltd.



Cross Section : $\frac{1}{2}$ in. scale.

Coundon Court School, Coventry

Infants' Classrooms



Your Aunt's Conservatory — or CAUTIONARY TALES FOR THE SMALL ARCHITECT — 2

by Denzil Nield, A.R.I.B.A.

THE BUILDER

A year of professional practice lectures on what an architect should do to a builder who goes bankrupt, does not comply with instructions, does work badly, does not complete the work to time and presents false records, gives the student an impression that all builders are terrible men only just keeping out of prison.

Perhaps in the bad old days the competition was more fierce and jobs were battles of wits with each side trying to score off the other at every opportunity, the builder to build the job a little worse and to charge a lot more, and the architect to catch him out on every possible occasion. Our hearty jovial builder forebears may have been elated about leaving the concrete out of the foundations and getting away with it, on the one hand, and the architects may have rubbed their hands with glee when the builder had to do weeks of pumping which he would not get any extra for, on the other.

The boot is now very much on the other foot. Many are incompetent for some sort of work but competent enough, considering the price they charge, for the work they know and usually do. They are, in fact, often good clients, certainly they often recommend clients so there is no point in offending them by spurning work which may not be to one's great liking such as sorting out a drainage problem with the local sanitary inspector.

Certainly on small jobs now so much depends on the builder's knowledge, good nature, tact, and his resources in craftsmen and materials, that the only thing to do is to find out the good ones, stick to them, and shun the others as much as possible.

Open tendering is, in my opinion, the curse of the industry and this has got down to the small jobs in too many cases. Clients say "Mr. Bloggs called to-day, I told him about the garage and he said he would like to give a price. There doesn't seem any harm in his doing so, but I don't know what his work is like." Or even "I shall have to ask Mr. Mattock as he cleans out the gutters sometimes, but I don't know whether he could do this." This is very unsound.

It is worth while to consider the matter of estimates a little further. A builder's job is to build, or to organize some building. Time spent on esti-

mating is just wasted if not successful, if 10 give estimates for one job their chance is one in ten and on this basis to get 10 jobs they have to give and perhaps pay for 100 estimates. This may be an exaggeration but it is easy to see why they sometimes think of forming rings to share out jobs, or to give each other "cover" prices. Because a builder will never, never say he does not want to give an estimate, or is too busy to do the work if he is offered the job, or that it is not the sort of work he can do easily. There

this. Favouritism is suspected or even worse.

Need the tenderers know the others' prices? Not in theory, but in practice they will always find out, so that it is better to earn a reputation for complete openness and fairness by notifying the results to all tenderers. They will find out by the same bush telegraph that leads to the "cover price." Particularly in a small community.

In case the reader does not know, to get a "cover price" a builder will ring up any builder he suspects is tendering and ask to be given a figure which is above the other builder's but not so far above as to be obviously absurd. The willing tenderer need not then reveal his price but he has the satisfaction of knowing one competitor eliminated and he may be glad later to ask for the same favour.

Going back to the previous point, the architect's dependence on the builder, some believe it is very difficult for the architect to get advice on technical points or to be at all "matey" with the builder without compromising his position of arbitrator between the client and the builder. Perhaps where big contracts with big issues are involved, this is so, but the value of words of warning given in time or other advice offered can so often save so much for the architect and is out of proportion to the risks run. The builder realizes the architect's obligations to the client, better perhaps than the client does, and any whip-cracking done with complete impartiality and the reason given, will not be resented even if it is not enjoyed. On the other side one finds too soon the serpent whispering that it would save a lot of bother to work a little quiet collusion with the builder to circumvent a blockhead client and add nothing more to his bill than the reasonable cost of his own blockheadedness. This serpent lives at the bottom of every plan chest, escapes on occasions and is only imprisoned again with difficulty.

The architect is paid by his client but more often than not the client is more unreasonable than the builder so he must in common honesty steer a course between all these client and builder rocks and if when he dies his obituary says only "he was always very fair" he can count himself, provided he is in a position to do so, quite a successful architect in the social rather than the financial sense.

(next week : The Job)



"Our hearty jovial builder forebears . . ."

CANDID FRIENDSHIP

The Architect's Approach to Artificial Lighting

SOME time ago I had the privilege of hearing an architect read a paper before the Glasgow Centre of the Illuminating Engineering Society on "The Architect's Approach to Artificial Lighting." I often wonder what kind of disturbance goes on in an architect's mind when he turns his attention to illuminating problems, so it was a real privilege to get a first-hand picture. Although the speaker stressed the fact that he was not speaking for the profession as a whole, I should say, from my own experience of your profession, that his point of view is shared by at least 90 per cent of the profession.

The scene in the architect's mind as he thinks about illumination appears to my eyes to be rather like Hiroshima after the atom bomb, utter confusion and chaos, yet full of drama. One is led to believe that electric illumination has been developed by engineers and scientists to its present state of perfection for the sole purpose of providing the architect with dramatic effect, another hue for his palette as the speaker put it. If this is all that modern illumination means to the architect I suggest that he turns his attention to thermal flashers and confines his activities to his infant's Christmas tree. Quantity and quality of illumination appear to have no place in the architect's conception; not a word on suitable brightness ratios, discomfort glare ratings, or even illumination levels, although in ninety-nine cases in one hundred the client wants light for seeing efficiently; for concentration, not for distraction.

There was repeated humbug about taking the advice of an illuminating engineer, without apparently being bound to accept good advice.

It is well known that in all aspects of building, economy is the order of the day, but I believe that far too little of the available cash is spent on artificial lighting, and far too much of that on decorative lighting. Before one penny is spent on decoration the illuminating engineer should be given a free hand to provide lighting for seeing at least to the standard prescribed in the I.E.S. Lighting Code, so contributing a little to relieving the burden on the National Health Service for spectacles. From both a medical viewpoint and by comparison with current American levels, our specified values are low, but they are supposed to represent a fair compromise between visual performance

and cost. I have no doubt that if an impartial examination were made, keeping decorative lighting in its correct perspective, it would be found that higher values can be justified economically even at the present time.

Only after good seeing conditions have been satisfied should the illuminating engineer be asked to assist the architect in improving the appearance of his building; which would perhaps not require such attention if the architect minded his own business. Then the architect should inform the engineer in writing of exactly what he requires, in plain English; that is if he knows what he wants. None of the expensive, time-wasting trial and error of the past. The architect loves to talk of models and form, the engineer is not interested in these except as a last resort, because they are expensive, and inanimate too. There is enough technical information available in illuminating engineering journals for almost any effect to be simulated without reference to models, by carefully calculated design alone, provided the engineer is not interfered with.

I am appalled at the extent to which the architect thinks that he is entitled to interfere in lighting matters. If I were a client employing a lighting consultant I would be very angry indeed if my architect did not follow the expert's advice. From the selection of photographs exhibited by the speaker, the architect appears to consider that the whole of the lighting field, including industry, is his exclusive province, to the almost complete exclusion of the illuminating engineer. At least 90 per cent of the installations shown were very poor examples of the lighting science, full of extremes of brightness, even in places where critical visual tasks were to be performed. The best installation shown was the "louvral" ceiling at the U.N. Assembly, the only defect attributed to this type of installation being the risk of reflected glare where critical vision is required, but as this was not a requirement in this case, all I would condemn, if the photograph were a true picture, would be the architect's choice of too low a wall reflectance; yet the speaker roundly condemned the installation as being the cause of all the world's present troubles.

I was even more amazed when the speaker went on, with well-chosen words, to "set the lighting stage" in the turbine hall of a generating station. I must apologize for not

doing his eloquence justice and ask readers to bear with me while I set the stage in my own crude, realistic fashion.

Bill Jones, the shift engineer, is going about his business with a sense of urgency and doing his best with an architect's miserable idea of adequate general illumination. He hurries down the steps from the side balconies to the main floor, when suddenly he is blinded by the reflected glare from the futile spotlights playing on the gleaming generating set, and down he falls into the next world, just like a useless gargoyle falling off an old church.

Abner is not very keen on contemporary fittings, neither is the illuminating engineer, but not because of airy fairy fads, rather because they are veritable light traps with extraordinarily low coefficients of utilization. Some are little better than cocoa tins with holes in, admirably suited for warming car radiators during winter nights.

The average engineer is not a very temperamental person, but it is most frustrating having to calculate over and over again a job which he has conscientiously done the first time to suit the fickle tastes of an architect, while other urgent work piles up. Because, in general, the engineer depends on the architect for patronage, rather like the poor man looking for crumbs from the rich man's table, he is expected to grin and bear it. The speaker ironically appealed for the illuminating engineer's co-operation on a basis of mutual respect, after spending almost two hours explaining with politely chosen words that engineers were just intended to be architects' labourers.

He suggested that architects should be taught illuminating engineering, electrical engineering, etc., as though these subjects could be picked up in half a dozen one-hour lectures. Then he naively remarked that the present state of affairs produces a condition where a little knowledge is dangerous; the state he envisaged would be infinitely worse. A few lectures would not qualify an architect to interfere in engineering matters. Unless the architect specializes to the extent of qualifying as an engineer, then in all fairness to the client, engineering matters should be left to the specialist who can give value for money.

In the subsequent discussion one illuminating engineer put forward the plea that the R.I.B.A. and the I.E.S. should get together and decide where the line of demarcation between the activities of the architect

and the illuminating engineer should be drawn. He added that he was tired of architects dabbling in lighting and asked how architects would like engineers to dabble in architecture. The attitude of your profession is obvious from the fact that you have a committee set up to investigate the architectural activities of unqualified persons.

Spheres of influence should be clearly defined, and similar lines of demarcation should be established between architects and other branches of engineering. When one thinks of

the dangers of architects dabbling in electrical installation work one's blood runs cold, even when the brains of contractors are picked, because too many contractors are not technically sound and require careful supervision.

One is astounded to read that the architect can decide whether he needs an engineering consultant, and that even when he bows to discretion he still collects two-thirds of his fee on the work he has admitted he is incapable of doing.

The law has been too kind to the

architectural profession; it should without delay make it illegal for fees to be accepted in respect of work the man is not qualified to perform.

But co-operation is obviously necessary. The illuminating engineer demands higher reflectances for ceilings, floors, walls and furniture; these are just as important in producing conditions of comfort as acoustic tiles are, but good reflecting surfaces don't have pretty little holes in them.

RONALD CROFT,
B.Sc. (Hons.), Grad. I.E.E.

Review of Planning Policy in 1953 : 1 : Housing

BY FRANK LAYFIELD

SHORTLY after the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, received the Royal Assent, the responsible Ministry issued the first post-war "Bulletin of Selected Appeal Decisions" which set out some of the Minister's decisions on appeals made under the Planning Acts. Since then another ten such bulletins have been issued. The first of these bulletins was accompanied by a Circular (No. 33) which declared that the publication was intended to provide "a body of decisions covering a wide variety of development to which reference can readily be made." These decisions, it said, were also "to illustrate the application of planning principles to particular cases." Moreover, the Ministry's Permanent Secretary, when addressing the R.I.B.A. in 1948, referred to these Bulletins and commented that "we hope thus to build up a body of case law, which may help to reduce appeals." It may, therefore, reasonably be assumed that the Ministry's decisions on planning appeals are based upon a coherent policy and can, at least, be taken as a general guide to the attitude the Minister will adopt to certain questions. A study of these decisions shows that they go some way to fulfil this promise. A new source of guidance has appeared recently. The Department of Health for Scotland has, belatedly, also started to publish some selected decisions. The first of these Scottish Bulletins appeared late in 1952. Care must, of course, be exercised when these Scottish decisions are called in aid, since they do not, of necessity, reflect policy south of the border. It is worth the time of any would-be developer to give the available decisions some attention before applying for planning permission and, even more so, before appealing against a refusal.

With these considerations in mind it has been thought useful to review some of the Minister's decisions made in 1953 to see what useful guidance developers can get from them.

It is interesting to note in this connection that the Minister of Housing has, on several recent occasions, expressed concern at the increase in the

number of appeals to his Ministry. This suggests that, remembering the Ministry's avowed intention quoted above, recent decisions may reflect increased care by the Ministry in so wording those decisions that they help to make their policy clear to all parties. A field in which this is particularly likely to be true is that of Housing, therefore it has been thought suitable to consider Housing problems first.

The Design of Houses

Perhaps the most interesting and important matter relating to the design of houses is to ascertain how far new and progressive ideas in design are likely to be encouraged by the planning authorities. As recently as 1952 the Minister's attitude became clear. A developer proposed to build a circular house with a low-pitched roof near Bath. The Minister rejected the contention of the local Council that the house would be out of harmony with other buildings, and said that

"Planning authorities must be prepared to encourage new ideas in design even though they appear to break with local tradition; and that an honest design, however unusual, which will employ good and appropriate materials, should be disallowed only in the rarest cases where neighbouring development appears to demand a particular, and different form."

This intelligent and encouraging attitude can be seen to run through most of the many decisions issued by the Ministry in 1953. Further, some useful additional points have emerged. The Minister is unwilling, it seems, except where some carefully designed unity or unusually harmonious composition will be broken, to refuse permission solely on the grounds of unusual or unconventional design. Thus, where it was proposed to build a house at Ashtead, and the local U.D.C. refused permission, the Minister, in allowing the appeal, said that their objection was

"confined to its lack of height and smallness of bulk in relation to neighbouring houses and others

likely to be built near to it . . . Since the appellant's house, while unpretentious, is regarded as satisfactory in itself, he sees no reason to suppose that its appearance will be detrimental to its present or future surroundings."

Very similar considerations affected a proposal to build a house at Dalewood Road, Orpington. Here the Council thought that the unconventional shape and appearance of the proposed house was unrelated to the development surrounding it. They objected, therefore, to it on the grounds that it would be incongruous. The Minister rejected this contention, saying that, having regard to "the varying designs and colours of houses recently permitted in the road," he did not believe that the proposed house would be unduly conspicuous or out of keeping with the neighbourhood. Bulk was also the ruling factor in a Scottish case, number two in the first bulletin. The local authority objected to the erection of a small house in a street mainly comprised of large houses. The Secretary of State refused to accept this as an adequate reason for refusal, and added that the site was too small for a larger house.

The Minister also refused to confirm a refusal of the Epsom and Ewell B.C. to allow a house and garage to be built at Cheam. Once again the Council

"considered the rather austere design of the house would be out of keeping with the other houses in the road. These were of varied type but all of traditional styles."

They also objected to the flat-roofed garage. They thought that, while this was actually connected to the house, it would appear to be separate. Why they should have regarded this as outrageous does not appear. But they added that they thought "the angle of its siting was ugly and had no precedent in the neighbourhood." The Minister, when he refused to accept these opinions, said he saw no reason to think that "the proposed house and garage would be injurious to the amenities of the road."

Sometimes local authorities attempt the imposition of conditions which they

hope will achieve effects similar to those already mentioned, namely, to render an unconventional building more traditional in its appearance. An example of this kind of thing, and its rejection, is to be found in the fifth case in the Scottish bulletin. There the local authority remarked that all the existing houses in a road had pitched roofs. The proposed pair of houses had flat roofs. They decided to impose a condition that these flat roofs should be changed to pitched roofs as soon as timber became more plentiful. The Secretary of State held the condition to be unreasonable and discharged it.

The clear general tenor of the Minister's decisions on matters affecting the design and appearance of houses is very helpful. It is, therefore, the more unfortunate that, when he refuses permission for the erection of a house because of its appearance, he should sometimes fail to make the reasons for his opinions clear. A case of this kind occurred recently in Hertfordshire where an application to build a house at North Common, Redbourn, was refused because "its design, height and external appearance, was unsatisfactory." In supporting the decision of the local authority the Minister said that he appreciated the efforts of the Council to maintain "the harmonious effect of buildings in Redbourn Common" and agreed that the proposed house would "be out of keeping with the general character of existing development there." Doubtless the decision was a very sound one, but, although the wording of it gives some general idea of the basis of the Minister's view, more particularity in cases of this kind is "devoutly to be wished."

The Siting of Individual and small groups of houses

The Minister has, on numerous occasions, stated that he does not wish to encourage the building of houses in isolated spots. When writing to the Haverfordwest R.D.C. recently he said that "He still holds the view which was expressed in the 'Notes on the Siting of Houses in Country Districts' that most new houses should be sited in or near existing villages or hamlets." One of the many instances of the application of this policy occurs in the decision where a bungalow was to be erected at Hoath, near Canterbury. Permission had been refused by the Kent C.C., and although in the special circumstances, the Minister allowed the appeal he stated that

"he agrees with the policy of the council that unless future residential development in rural areas is related to the needs of agriculture, it should be sited in or near existing communities."

It may, naturally, be asked what the Minister means by the phrase "related to the needs of agriculture." This can best be answered, in short compass, by saying that the kind of development which appears to be meant is any which will increase the productive capacity of farm land or bring into production

land not at present used for agriculture. It is succinctly expressed in a decision made last January concerning Wraybury. The Minister allowed the erection of a house for an agricultural worker on land that the local authority proposed to restrict from residential development. Though there were good reasons for the local authority's attitude, the Minister said that he thought that there would "be no strong objection to the appellant's proposal to erect one house on the site proposed if thereby the land were put to more productive use." It is perhaps worth remarking in this connection that the Minister's decisions in 1953 show that, special circumstances apart, he continues to frown on any development on agricultural land. He continues to refer to "the imperative need to conserve all agricultural land in this country."

Closely related to the intention to conserve land wherever possible is the Minister's insistence that, except in special cases, "infilling" of existing development should take place before new areas are invaded for development purposes. This can be illustrated by a decision not to permit a site of ten and a half acres to be taken for house building at Esher in May of last year. The Minister said that he was satisfied that there were no grounds for allowing further development in the locality concerned and said that

"He does not, however, rule out the genuine infilling and reasonable rounding-off of the existing island of development . . . and notes that the the council have accepted the principle . . ."

Even in areas where, for some reasons such as liability to flooding, development would not otherwise be permitted genuine infilling may be allowed. An example of this can be found in the first of the Scottish cases. The local planning authority had refused to allow a bungalow to be built fronting a main road unless a service road was constructed. The Secretary of State in allowing the appeal made it clear that he thought the infilling of one extra house would not appreciably add to the traffic dangers of which the authority complained. In passing, it may be useful to point out that development on a site otherwise acceptable may not be permitted if there is not satisfactory road access. Concerning Cheshunt, to take a decision in point, where houses were sought to be erected, the Minister noted in his decision letter:

"The Council have no objection in principle to the erection of houses on your client's land. . . . Your client's proposals do not, however, indicate how access to Flamstead End Road by way of a properly constructed and suitable road is to be obtained. In the absence of such a provision . . . permission should be withheld for any further residential development of the site."

One of the most important questions when considering the siting of houses

at the present time must be the way in which draft development plans affect the choice of site. Some useful guidance on this point may be found in a letter to an appellant dismissing his appeal against a decision of the Essex C.C. The County Council had refused permission for the erection of 84 houses because the site concerned was allocated as public open space in the draft development plan.

"It is one of the main objects of a development plan to secure the reservation of adequate land for the future needs of communities within the area and such proposals can only be properly considered as a whole. The county development plan is now before the Minister and it would not be right that consideration of the plan should be prejudiced by the approval of development that conflicts directly with its proposals unless it were clearly shown both that the development was urgently required and that it could not be carried out on other land suitable for the purpose and in conformity with the plan."

In view of the large number of plans now awaiting approval by the Minister, and of the length of time likely to pass before that approval is given in many cases, this is clearly a valuable statement. It will be noted that the comment is confined to proposals which conflict directly with the plan. Also it is dealing with and referring to development on an appreciable scale, some 84 houses in fact. It is instructive, therefore, to compare it with another decision made in July last. The Minister, in the latter instance, allowed an appeal against the refusal of the Hendon B.C. to permit the building of a bungalow. They had refused because the land was shown as public open space on the Middlesex development plan. The site was also situated in the Metropolitan green belt. The Minister, referring to the development plan, then in his hands, said that:

"The land (of 48 acres in Middlesex) is shown for public open space and agricultural green belt, and that the site is included in that part of it shown for public open space . . . The Minister does not think that the building of a bungalow on the appeal site would represent any significant incursion into open space land. . . ."

He also added that conditions as to design and detailed siting could secure that the building would not disturb the view over the local countryside. What would amount to a "significant incursion" will, of course, depend to a great extent on the local circumstances of the case. But it is clearly an interesting proviso that should be kept in mind when proposals are considered that may infringe the provisions of a development plan.

In writing this and succeeding articles I have been much assisted by the decision letters published in the pages of the Journal of Planning Law, and my thanks are due to the Editor of the Journal accordingly. F. L.



City of Birmingham College of Commerce

Alex Steele, Dip. Arch., A.R.I.B.A., Architect

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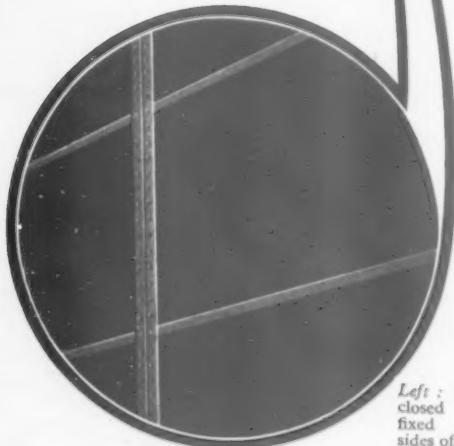
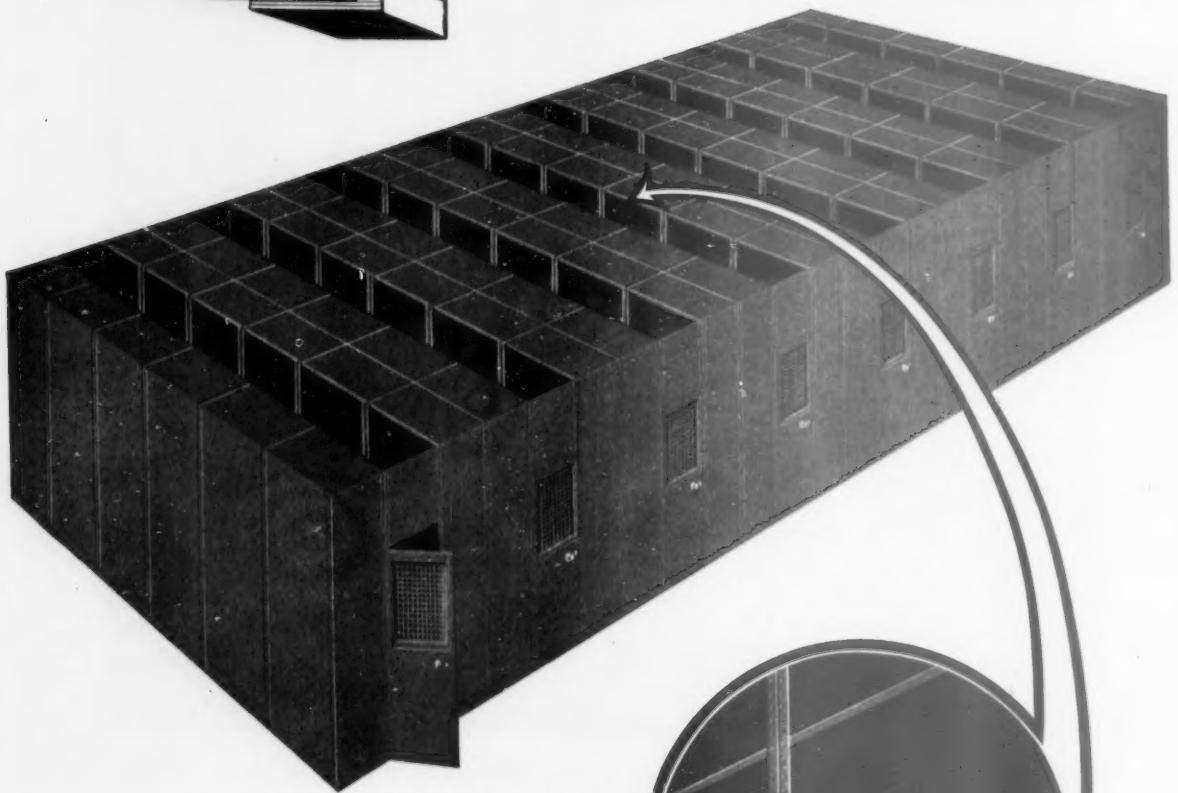
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Can B.S. Products be Obtained?

OME weeks ago an issue of a contemporary journal questioned how many of the B.S. in the recently published new edition of the B.S. Building Handbook could actually be obtained for use and quoted a particular instance of building sand to which, after four weeks, no supplies could be found by a contractor to meet an architect's specification. As I have so often quoted B.S. in these notes I felt it might be very interesting to make a series of enquiries as to the availability of materials and components to many of the B.S., including those which seemed to be less likely, set out in the Handbook.

I started my enquiries in each instance through contractors or builders' merchants. The result was that in almost all instances I had little difficulty in obtaining quotations and reasonable delivery promises. The sand quoted in the article to which my attention had been drawn did, however, prove somewhat difficult to obtain through normal sources of supply but by enquiring at two fairly obvious sources of likely information, namely the B.S.I. itself and the Sand and Ballast Trades Association, information of sources quickly became available. It rather surprises me to think that for four weeks neither the contractor nor the architect concerned appeared to have tried such likely sources of information as these two nor apparently B.R.S. or M.O.W., both of whom regularly make references to B.S.1200 in their information publications. I think it likely that the L.M.B.A. information service would also have provided an answer fairly quickly. All this difficulty seems to me to point to an inadequate use of these now numerous key sources of information available to the building industry.

In a few other instances I had some difficulty in tracing what I needed through the nearest builder's merchant but within a short space of time at least one of the information sources referred to above produced names of firms in every instance.

Regrettably there were certain strange replies to my enquiries. For example, in a number of cases I was asked if I could supply detailed descriptions of what was covered by the B.S. referred to because the merchant had no copy nor, in some cases, knew of the existence of the B.S. quoted. I was amused by two cases relating to windows. In the first, which was for wood windows, I was told that the firm could supply E.J.M.A. windows but not B.S. windows, apparently not realizing that they were virtually the same, while in the second and very similar case I was told I could have Messrs. X standard metal windows but not windows to B.S.990; it so happens that Messrs. X seem to spend much of their advertising calling attention to the fact that all their standard windows are good because they comply with B.S.990; as will be understood this latter enquiry was

not put directly to a metal window manufacturer.

I had the most difficulty in finding metal trim to comply with B.S.1246. Ultimately I had to ask B.S.I. itself for names of possible suppliers. During my enquiries I was rather gratifyingly surprised to find a number of cases in which it appeared that a very great part of total production complied with the B.S. although in many of these fields the fact was not clearly stated or in some instances was virtually unknown to the suppliers. Examples in this field were cement, copper tubes, iron pipes and screws. In some of the instances in which it was less easy to obtain supplies to the B.S. I made further enquiries to know why this was so.

The sand example was very interesting in this respect—several suppliers said their pits would probably produce what was wanted but they had not the grading gear necessary nor the test apparatus to know whether or not it complied, but as most customers would take the stuff as it came out of the pit, they did not think it necessary to bother to test or grade their output; furthermore, additional or even some screening would be needed which would raise their costs and reduce the profits. It seemed that they were mostly aware that careful grading of sand and aggregate could be a real contribution to make better concrete and plaster work but they felt that if users would accept the material just as dug it was easier to carry on that way. It seems that many specifications define in some detail what is required but only very few builders and architects bother to check whether what is supplied does or does not meet the specification, thus the sand and aggregate suppliers usually get away with whatever they deliver. There is, in my opinion, little doubt that if more of us took the trouble to check what is supplied there would quickly be ample supplies of well graded material which would tend towards better building. An enquiry at B.S.I. indicated that the standards for sands and concrete aggregate are being revised, so let us hope that the new editions will mean more material of known quality and that there will be an increase in co-operation from the sand and ballast merchants to supply the right stuff to use, as some are willing to do now.

I was also surprised by the number of replies to my enquiries in which it was said, "Why don't you use our . . . it is cheaper than the B.S. . . ." It is strange how often firms seem to want to sell cheaper products than called for in the enquiry. Do contractors always try to buy the cheapest they can? I sometimes wonder also if the profits are greater on the merchants' own lines than those one specifies—this does not only apply when a B.S. is quoted. Frequently I was offered, instead of a product to meet my B.S. request, one obviously inferior but at only a slightly

less price; in some cases I almost had the feeling that I was being encouraged to buy a poor product because it would more quickly need replacement, thus ensuring a continuity of business. This seemed strangely frequent in relation to taps, ball-valves and W.C. seats.

These enquiries have caused me to trail round many shops and showrooms and the pressure to buy cheap, disregarding future sources of maintenance, was very noticeable. I am fully aware that building costs are high and economic building is of paramount importance but surely this is not desirable if low first costs require higher maintenance throughout the normal span of life of a building. In this respect I even wonder whether some of the B.S. are set at a sufficiently high level of quality. In some spheres it strikes me that the level might be raised as a step towards overall economy. In very few showrooms did there seem to be any effort to draw attention to whether goods did or did not comply with any B.S. Admittedly, there are no B.S. for some products most frequently displayed, such as stoves and fireplace surrounds, while the demand for some other products, such as baths, appears to be that the displays are directed towards the non-B.S. types which, being more costly in many cases, are the ones which most need display.

In my travels I had quoted to me an example of departure from a B.S. which was very surprising. In the early stages of a large job comprising five separate blocks of flats it was decided to use wood casement windows to B.S. 644 Part I. The tender for windows was based on a schedule of types selected from the B.S. range and a price accepted. The job was erected block by block and timber licences issued on this basis. When the first block was completed and the second started the joinery contractor was asked to make some modifications to both the window sections and sizes which he agreed to do somewhat reluctantly as he had already bought the timber in sizes to suit the originally agreed schedule. To his surprise, just as windows were called for on the third block he was asked to make still further changes and this same procedure happened again on both the fourth and on the fifth blocks so that at the end the windows supplied bore little resemblance to those in the original schedule on which the tender was based. Then, to the contractor's utter amazement, the designer said he could see no reason for a charge being made after each block for variations as in his opinion each block had sufficient windows to make a good "run." It seemed that he could not appreciate that much timber was wasted and extra timber required because of the changes, quite apart from changes to cutters, jigs, etc., all of which existed to make the B.S. windows before the contract started. Fortunately the Q.S. was more understanding.

DUTCH UNCLE

MOSAICS

SERVICES
WATER SUPPLY
B 4/20

This new model, the "Goodenough" 1½in 154 Centrifugal Pump by Goodenough Contractors' Machinery Ltd., of 70/72, London Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, has been designed to meet the demands of builders, farmers, sports grounds, golf clubs, etc., for a high-performance pump. The pump is direct-coupled to an entirely new J.A.P. Model 80 two-stroke engine, and the performance figures are: Maximum total head, 110ft; Maximum output, 4,000 g.p.h.; guaranteed suction lift, 25ft.

The total weight of the complete unit is only 40 lbs. The mounting is on an alloy base-plate fitted with rubbers to absorb shock and to prevent "creeping." The engine is fitted with a hand throttle control operated from the car, by a long handle.

An exclusive self-priming device is incorporated in the new pump, which will satisfactorily handle liquids containing up to 25 per cent solids.

The new pump has been produced primarily to meet competition in overseas markets, and costs £28, carriage paid.

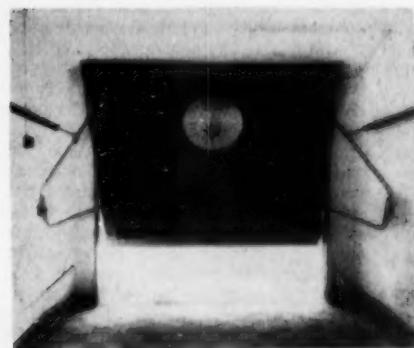
SERVICES
WATER SOFTENING
B 6/16

The Master Softener, by Steralic Filters Ltd., Station Works, Beaconsfield, Bucks, is intended for use where limited quantities of soft water are required.

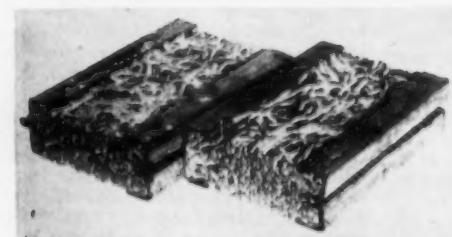
The unit, which is 5in x 3in and weighs 14 oz, fits straight on to the tap and can be removed and replaced at will. It is constructed of a non-rusting light alloy which contains a replaceable filter cartridge. The filter can be regenerated by soaking in a solution of common salt, and for this reason the unit is supplied with two cartridges, so that one may be used while the other is being regenerated.

Made with a connection suitable for ½in, ¾in or 1in taps, costs, with tax, £1/17/9.

STRUCTURE

DOORS
A 11/10

An up-and-over system for garage doors which use spring-loaded hinges, made by Acrow (Engineers) Ltd., South Wharf, W.2. The fittings cost between £10 and £12, according to type. Two sorts are made, one with and one without a top horizontal rail, both are suitable for doors of heights between 6ft and 8ft. For doors under 6ft or over 8ft high, special fittings can be provided.

STRUCTURE
PARTITIONING, ETC.
A 3/6

A new and improved type of wood wool slab is being manufactured by Halford (Precision) Panels Ltd., of Stockley, West Drayton, Middlesex, under Licence 27429, known as the interlocking steel-edged reinforced wood wool slab. This type of slab is made in 2in, 3in or 4in thickness, according to the degree of insulation or length of span required. Briefly the characteristics may be summarized as follows: Thermal insulation value for 2in = 0.23, sound absorption value for 2in thickness = 0.80 at 500 cycles, increased structural strength, high fire resistance. The interlocking prevents individual panel deflections and joint-cracked ceilings.

These new interlocking wood wool panels can span 6ft, 6ft 8in, 7ft, 8ft 3in and 10ft, withstanding a dead loading of 15 lb per sq ft, a superimposed load of 40 lb per sq ft, with a deflection that does not exceed $\frac{1}{6}$ of an inch.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES

• An extremely elaborate and thoroughly convincing demonstration of the characteristics of a new material was made recently by Secondite, Ltd., of 25, Millbank, S.W.1. The new material, named Secondite after its Italian inventor, Signor Secondi, consists of rice husks after secret treatment.

Disposal of these husks has always been a problem to the rice grower, this process has turned a waste product into a by-product. The process is a closely guarded secret, all that is known is that the husks undergo biological change rather than chemical and that the process takes 72 hours. The husk emerges from its treatment looking much the same and is graded for size into three groups. A Coarse, B Medium and C Fine.

The principal interest to architects will be the Thermal insulative and non-combustible qualities of the product. The demonstrations showed, 1. two ½in boards of Secondite C and Magnesite subjected to a fierce fire. 2. A Secondite A and cement slab, pierced by a ½in bolt was heated on a forge. 3. A Secondite C and Magnesite slab, ½in thick, attacked by an oxy-acetylene flame. The fourth test also demonstrated the heat insulation possibilities, a hemispherical cupola, 2½in thick, was placed over a pound of butter and a thermometer, the whole saturated with petrol and set alight. An hour later the last flames were extinguished and the butter was seen to be unmelted and the thermometer registered rise in temperature of only 13deg.

A petrol tank, lined internally with a 2in quilt of Secondite was punctured by an oxy-acetylene flame and welded again, the tank being full of petrol.

Another full petrol tank, similarly lined, was blown up by an explosive charge and petrol was prevented from igniting by the lining.

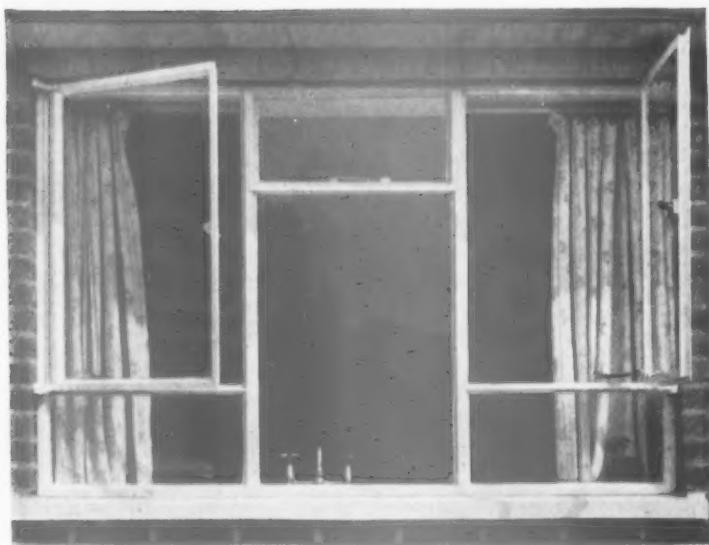
The sight of a watering can full of petrol, the spout filled with Secondite, pouring flaming petrol through a filter of the same material was truly impressive; the filter prevented the flames passing and unlit petrol came out the other side.

As might be expected in a series of demonstrations incorporating petrol, a few minor accidents occurred, all were dealt with by the prompt application of some Secondite A from a nearby sack—a most impressive show. The Building Research Station will have the opportunity of investigating the material, private individuals requiring samples for their own tests should write to Secondite, Ltd.

• In order to complete the liquidation of their hardwood trading stocks, the Timber Directorate is inviting tenders for the purchase of this timber from anyone who wishes to buy it.

Applications for particulars of the stocks offered, conditions of sale and forms of tender, should be made to Deputy Director, Ministry of Materials, Timber Directorate, Lacon House, Theobalds Road, London, W.C.1.

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ESSENTIAL ON-COSTS

Fees payable to L.C.C. for District Surveyor: For new buildings of ordinary construction exceeding 5,000 cubic feet, for every 1,000 feet or part of same up to 1,000,000 cubic feet £1/10/- together with an additional sum of £1/10/- After which allow per 1,000 do. at + 1/6 at + 9d.

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1/5th

+ 2

Allowance to cover National Insurances, Holidays with Pay and Public Holidays, Welfare, Third Party Risk, Travelling and Guaranteed Week is made in the rates attached to the items.

Allow for Fire Insurance do. Allow for Water for use on the works and apparatus do. 6 6/0 Allow for hoarding, or similar licences in City of London say £10 Do. under Borough Councils per ex month say 2/6 Allow for Office, Fire, Attendance on C. or W. etc., p. week say £1

Supervision, etc. assessment Contract value £4,000 £6,000 £12,000 £24,000 £50,000 Cost of admin. 6% 5% 5% 4 1/2% 4 1/2% Agent or foreman (each) 5% 4 1/2% 3 1/2% 2 1/2% 1 1/2% Timekeeper or Watchman (each) 2 1/2% 2 1/2% 1 1/2% 1% 1%

SPOT ITEMS AND DEMOLITION, ETC. Per foot run Hoarding erected and removed 16/- Planked gangway with handrail, etc. do. 8/6 Proper gantry do. 6 1/2/- Sleeper roadways 13/6 Needling, strutting and shoring including all labours Per foot cube and use and waste in erection and removal 16/- Breaking up and removing hard masses of concrete Per yard cube or brickwork, etc., found in foundations 54/-

ALTERATION-DEMOLITION— Brick 1 1/2 2 Per yard cutting out cement concrete or brickwork in small quantities. Per foot super Cube 1/2 2/2 3/- 54/- Do. if either in very small quantities or reinforced 1/10 3/6 5/- 80/- Debris into baskets and removed from inside to outside of bldg. 3 1/2d. 6d. 7 1/2d. 11/3

SCAFFOLDING Period— Per Yard superficial Putlog type—4' 6" lift 3/8 5/8 7/6 Do. —6' 0" do. 2/11 4/6 6/1 Independent type—4' 6" lift 4/10 7/9 11/- Do. —6' 0" do. 3/9 6/- 8/1

EXCAVATION Common Loam Stiff Hard Per Yard Cube. By Hand Soil and Clay Clay Gravel Reduce levels 4/6 5/- 6/3 7/7 Surface trench 7/10 9/6 12/6 13/4 Barrow 25 yds. 2/4 3/1 3/6 2/4 Fill and ram 4/1 4/7 5/- 4/10 Load and cart 13/6 13/11 14/5 13/8 By machine Bulk dig and load 3/3 3/8 4/- 4/- Lorry standing while loading and 5 miles travel to tip 5/2 5/9 7/- 6/5 1 extra mile to tip 7d. 8d. 8 1/2d. 8d.

CONCRETE 1 1/2 in Fallast Aggregate Per yard cube 1:3:6 Cement concrete in foundations 66/6 Do. around grillages 68/6

REINFORCED CONCRETE 1:2:4—1 1/2 in. concrete, worked around reinforcement, between formwork in the following (at various levels):— Foundations and surface beds 74/6 Per cubic ft Walls, 12ins thick or more 79/6 Yard

Sectional inches.	Lintols and Columns and beams.	Casings.	Braces and projections.
Up to 36	3/11	4/2	4/4 Per cubic ft.
36 to 72	3/8	4/-	3/9 do.
72 to 144	3/6	3/7	3/9 do.
over 144	3/4	3/6	3/8 do.
Walls 6ins thick	15/- Per super yard
Do. 9ins thick	21/6 do.
Suspended floors average 6ins thick	15/10 do.

REINFORCING RODS (round) bent and placed—			
Per cwt	1in	1in	1in
In floors and beams	68/-	63/-	59/-
In walls	74/-	68/-	62/-
In columns	80/-	73/-	67/-
			60/-

FORMWORK and Supports (4 times use)—			
Floor softs	Beams.	Walls.	Columns.
17/- per Yard.	2/4	2/1	2/1 per super foot.

BRICKWORK			
BRICKWORK per YARD superficial reduced to ONE BRICK in thickness (scaffold to add)—			In 1:3 cement mortar.
Flettons or other similar at 110/- per 1,000			36/-
Mild Stocks or do., at 218/6 per 1,000			49/3
Second Stocks or do., at 249/6 per 1,000			52/7
Southwater engineering or similar bricks, at 325/- per 1,000			64/9
Blue Staffordshire wire cut at 454/- per 1,000			78/6
Deduct if 1:1:6 Cement-Lime mortar is used in lieu of 1:3 Portland Cement mortar			2d.
Add if brickwork commences above ground level			3/3
Do. if in backing to masonry including cutting and waste for bonding			2/8
Do. if circular-on-plan			6/6
Do. if in underpinning			6/6

BRICKWORK IN THICKNESS NOT REDUCED—			
Per yard superficial.	Brick, on edge walls.	Half-Brick, fair both sides.	1 Brick 11" Hollow with 2" G.I. tics.
In Flettons or similar.	15/7	19/8	36/3 41/9
In second stocks or do.	21/3	28/1	52/7 58/1
Add : for pointing as work proceeds, per side	1/4	1/5	1/4 1/4
Thicknessing to old walls, including cutting, toothing and bonding to same an average total thickness of 1/2 brick	48/2	60/6	Per yard super.
Do. all as last but an average total thickness of 1/2 bricks	66/3	86/10	do.

WALLS BUILT IN SUPERIOR BRICKS—			
In 1:3 Cement mortar, fair faced and pointed on both sides as the work proceeds :—			Half-Brick One Brick
In first quality Stocks at 265/6..	31/9	56/11	Per yard
In red facings at 280/- ..	31/6	56/7	super.
In bluepressed facings at 501/-..	47/1	87/6	do.

GENERAL AND SUNDAY—			
Cut tooth and bond new brickwork to old	4/-	per ft	
Damp proof course, double slate, horizontal	2/9	super.	
Do., as last, but vertical	3/6	do.	
Do., bitumen, Hessian base, do.	1/6	do.	
Frames, bed and point in cement mortar, one side	4d.	per ft. run	
Window board of 6" x 6" x 1/2" rounded on edge			
quarry tiles, bedded, pointed, cut and fitted	2/9	do.	
Terra cotta air bricks built in and pointed, including flue	9" x 9"	4/9	8/6 each.
Chimney pots, plain red, set and flaunches in cement mortar	1ft high	12/3	18/3 each
Metal windows, assembled, hoisted and fixed, lugs cut and pinned and frames bedded and pointed	Up to 5ft super.	5ft to 10ft super.	
one side in cement mortar	9/6	12/- each	
10ft to 20ft super.	18/6	20ft to 40ft super.	
Leaving holes through walls for pipes and afterwards making good	Small pipes 3d. per in	33/- each	
in depth	6d. per in	in depth	
Cutting do., and afterwards do.	9d. do.	1/7 do.	
Cut mortices in brickwork or concrete for bolts or dowels and run in with cement grout	1/1 per in	in depth, each	
Holdfasts of stout hoop iron bent holed and screwed to frame and built in	1/1 each		

MEASURED RATES—Continued

BRICKWORK—Continued
FACING—

Extra only over common brickwork (110/- per 1,000) for facing with superior bricks in *Flemish bond* and pointing as the work proceeds.

Rustic Flettons (135/-)	3/4½ per yard super.
White (197/-)	8/- do.
First Stocks (265/6)	13/1½ do.
Reds (280/-)	13/10 do.
Blue pressed (501/-)	30/10 do.
If built in English bond, Add 10% to above.	
If do. half-brick stretcher bond, Less 25% off above.	

COPING—

All labour and material in forming brick-on-edge coping with two courses of roofing tiles under and cement weather fillets on both sides, built in cement and pointed as the work proceeds.

Per foot run	9" thick	14" thick
In picked Flettons	6/-	8/-
In first quality Stocks	7/4	10/8
In red facings	7/3	10/6
Plumbing angles	2d. per foot run	
Fair cutting	9½d. do.	
Fair raking cutting	1/4 do.	
Fair circular cutting	1/4 do.	
Fair squat or birdsmouth	1/7 do.	

ARCHES

Extra over Fletton brickwork for forming window head with red facing bricks set on end and with 4½" soffits and pointing. Do. for rubbed and gauged flat arch in red rubbers set in putty with fine joints

foot run

3/-

foot super

16/-

PARTITIONS

(over 100 Yards)		Per yard super—
Concrete slab partitions in cement mortar	2in.	2½in. 3in.
9/6	10/8	12/1
Hollow clay	11/8	12/6 13/8
Cutting and bonding at angles, intersections and ends		4d. foot run.

PAVING

lin.	1½in.	1½in.	yard super
Grane trowelled gauged 5:2	7/6	9/—	10/6
1 x 5in. skirting, square top and cove bottom	2/6		foot run
½in. x 6in. red quarry tile paving	25/6		yard super
½in. x 6in. do. skirting	1/8		foot run
Jointless flooring, ½in thick	20/—		yard super

ASPHALTE (normal conditions and fair quantity)

		B.S.
Per yard super	1450/48	1375/47
Black	11/3	12/6
Brown		13/6
Unit	B.S. 988	Natural Rock
		B.S.S. 1162/44

½in in two thicknesses on felt underlay on prepared concrete base	yard super	14/9	20/—
Ditto in narrow widths	foot super	1/10	2/6
½in skirting 6in high, angle fillet at bottom splayed and turned in at top	foot run	2/2	2/6
External angles	each	5d.	5d.
Internal ditto	each	8½d.	8½d.
Tanking or Damp Course	B.S. 1097/43	B.S. 1418/47	
Vertical in two thicknesses	yard super	19/—	25/—
½in horizontal ditto	yard super	12/9	19/6
Vertical in three thicknesses	yard super	24/3	33/—
½in horizontal ditto	yard super	18/8	29/6
Labour rounded external angle	per foot run	4½d.	4½d.
Ditto internal angle fillet	per foot run	8d.	8d.
Ditto double ditto	per foot run	1/3	1/3
Collars to small pipes	each	3/—	3/6
Ditto to large pipes	each	5/—	6/—

DRAINAGE

Per lineal yard	1 foot in depth	4/1
Excavate trench, and plank and strut to sides, consolidate bottom to fall, return fill and ram earth after drain is laid, and load and remove surplus.	2 do.	7/—
In ordinary ground—moderately firm	3 do.	17/2
	4 do.	22/9
	5 do.	28/4
	6 do.	36/—
	7 do.	43/10
	8 do.	55/6
	9 do.	64/6
	10 do.	71/6
	11 do.	89/—
	12 do.	100/—

Portland cement (1:6)	Per yard run
concrete bed under drain 4in pipes and benching up on 18in wide 20in wide 23in wide both sides—6" thick	9in 9in 9in
5/6	6/5
	8/-

SALT GLAZED SANITARY DRAIN PIPES

and lay and joint with Yarn and Cement Mortar in trench.

Quality	Quantity	Per foot run
" Best "	2 Tons or more	4in 6in 9in
	over 100 pieces	2/5 3/6 5/9
	under 100 ditto	2/9 4/2 6/6
" Best Tested "	2 Tons or more	3/— 4/4 7/—
	over 100 pieces	3/6 5/3 8/9
	under 100 ditto	3/9 5/6 9/3
" Bright Standard "	2 Tons or more	2/7 3/10 6/3
	over 100 pieces	3/— 4/4 7/4
" British Standard Tested "	2 Tons or more	3/2 4/7 7/8
	over 100 pieces	4/— 5/11 10/2
Extra for bends " Best "	Contained in 2 Ton lots.	3/9 5/6 15/5

IRON DRAIN PIPES—

Heavy cast iron socketed and laying and jointing in molten lead—

Per foot run
4in 6in
9/8 14/6

Per foot run
10/2 14/7

each

(Continued on page 157)

Purchase Tax facts . . .

Notwithstanding that PURCHASE TAX at the rate of 25% has been imposed on **MARLEY FLOOR TILES** as from the 6th January, 1954, where MARLEY TILES are being fixed by our own Tilers the following increases **ONLY** will apply

			PER SQ. YARD
A.	Housing	Standard Gauge	11d.
		1"	1/-
A.	Standard	Standard Gauge	1/-
		1"	1/1
B.		1"	1/5
C.		1"	1/11
D.		1"	2/1
E.	Housing	Standard Gauge	1/1
		1"	1/2

Dry rot is eliminated
 Sub-floor draughts are impossible
 Heat loss is reduced
 The floor is complete and decorative
 Installation is speedy
 Quality is high : cost low

There's nothing like- MARLEY

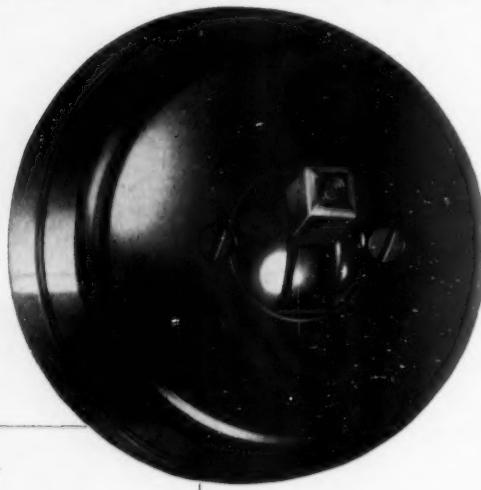


The Marley Tile Company Ltd., London Road, Riverhead, Sevenoaks, Kent. Sevenoaks 2251
Scotland : Bishopbriggs 1093. Wales : Pencoed 376. N. Ireland : Belfast 24447. Eire : Dublin 51794
London Showrooms at Alfred Goslett & Co. Ltd., 127-131 Charing Cross Road, W.C.2 GERRard 7890

The *NEW* 'AVON' switch

for A.C. only

a competitive, high quality switch



TESTED AND APPROVED BY THE
NATIONAL PHYSICAL LABORATORY

ONLY TWO MOVING PARTS

ALL CONTACT FACES ARE SILVER

SHORT BREAK-BUTT CONTACTS—
WIPING ACTION

FULLY POSITIVE

Flush types include

1 & 2 Gang vertical & horizontal plates.

1 & 2 Gang plaster depth boxes.
Switches for B.S. 1299 boxes.
Switches with fixed plates (1 gang).
Brackets for use with standard depth boxes.

Provision for switch depth adjustment is incorporated in plaster depth boxes.



A complete range of high quality A.C. switches at really competitive prices. Tested and approved by the National Physical Laboratory in accordance with the methods described in British Standard Specification for Tumbler Switches No. 1299 Part I, 1946.

The diameter of the base of the surface switch is 2 1/4" and the overall height only 1 1/16" (to top of dolly). Switch fixing centres are 1 1/8". Flush 1 Gang plates 3 1/4" square.

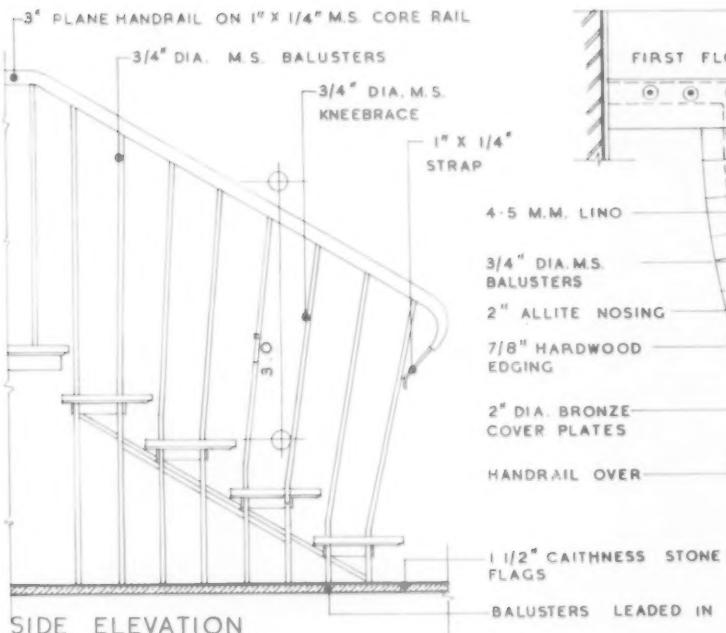
EDISWAN

RANGE OF ELECTRICAL ACCESSORIES

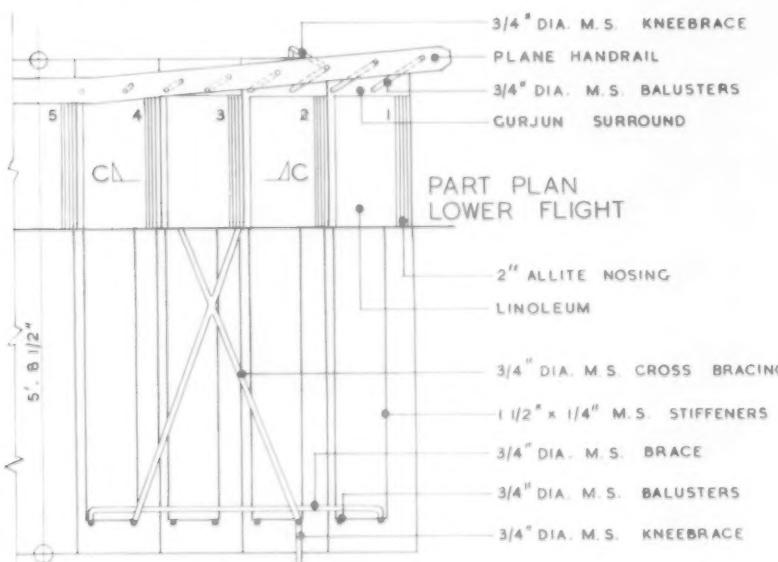
THE EDISON SWAN ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED
155 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2 and branches.

Member of the A.E.I. Group of Companies

E19

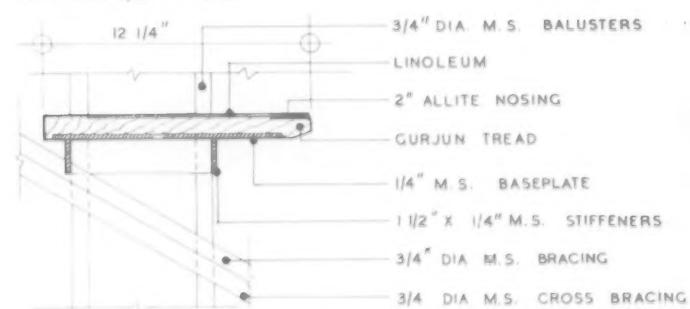


SIDE ELEVATION
OF LOWER FLIGHT



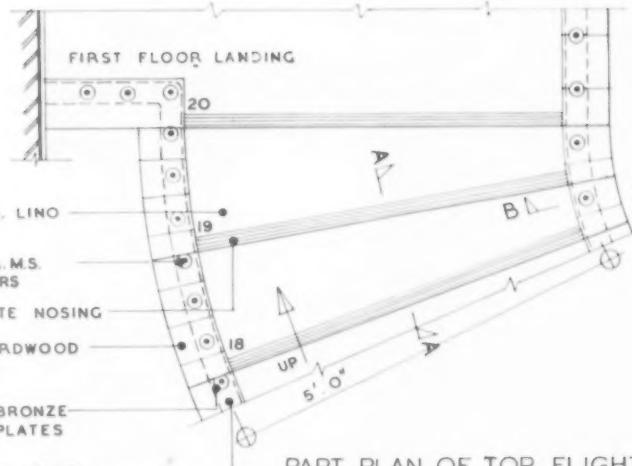
PART REFLECTED PLAN
OF LOWER FLIGHT

SCALE: 1/2" = 10"



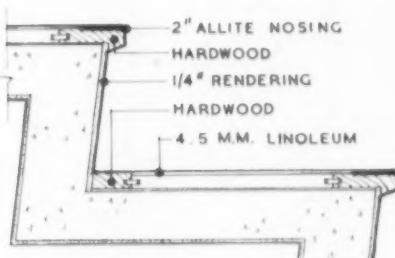
SECTION C-C

SCALE FOR DETAIL: 1 1/2" x 1.0"

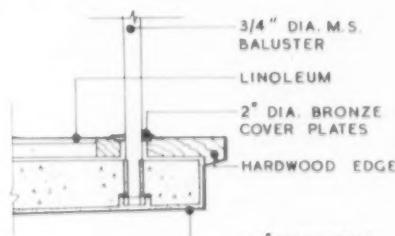


PART PLAN OF TOP FLIGHT

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'0"

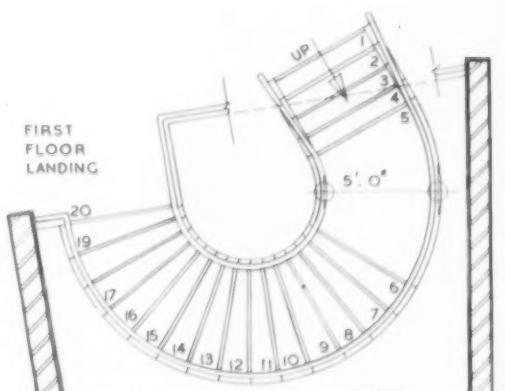


SECTION A-A



SECTION B-B

SCALE FOR DETAILS: 1 1/2" = 1' 0"



KEY PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1' 0"



MAIN STAIRWAY, HEALTH CENTRE, SIGHTHILL

ARCHITECTS: DEPT. OF HEALTH FOR SCOTLAND

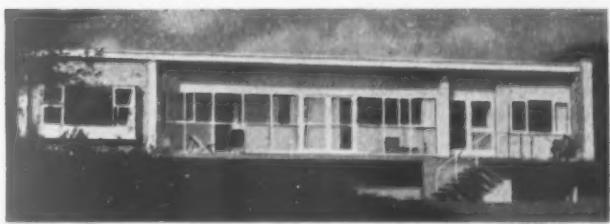
ZINC



TERACE HOUSES AT COWLEY PEACHEY. Architects—F. R. S. Yorke, F.R.I.B.A.; E. Rosenberg, F.R.I.B.A.; C. S. Mardall, A.R.I.B.A.

Flashings and hoods, rainwater goods and weatherings — from roof to foundations zinc plays an important part in building. Our illustrations show contemporary houses roofed with zinc laid on the standing seam system. The roofing of the Cowley Peachey houses has an added interest because it has been laid on insulation boarding to combine good insulation with lasting protection.

in 



HOUSE AT LUCCOMBE, I.O.W. View from South-west. Architect and owner—F. R. S. Yorke, F.R.I.B.A.

There are now no restrictions on the use of zinc. Supplies are plentiful and are likely to remain so for many years to come.

The price of zinc has dropped considerably and it is again one of the most economical roofing materials.

The Zinc Development Association will be pleased to send to potential users lists of stockists of all zinc building materials and of firms specialising in zinc work.

plenty



View of standing seam zinc roofing.



BEACON

PURPOSE-MADE STEEL WINDOWS AND DOORS



EASTCOTE LANE SCHOOL, NORTHOLT.

Architect: C. G. Stillman, F.R.I.B.A.
Architect to the Middlesex County Council

JOHN THOMPSON BEACON WINDOWS

LIMITED

Ettingshall, Wolverhampton & Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2

Telephone BILSTON 41121

Telephone TEMPLE BAR 3216

MEASURED RATES—Continued

FLOORS AND FLATS

Hollow tile in situ or precast units hoisted, bedded and fixed—			Span	per foot super—	1in	1½in	2in
Superimposed load in lb per foot super			12 feet	16 feet	2/2	2/10	3/4
Per yard super.	50	41/6	46/-				
	100	42/6	48/6				
	150	45/6	51/6				

20lb has been allowed to cover dead load in surface finish.
Fair edge to slabs 8d. per foot run
Splay cutting and waste 1/7 do.

CARPENTER AND JOINER

SOFTWOOD CARCASSING—			per foot cube—
Labour, materials, waste nails, Plates hoisting and fixing	17/8	18/6	20/- 22/-

FLOORING—			Per square—	1in	1in	1½in
Rough boarding			122/-	152/-	186/-	
Softwood batten flooring, straight joints, splayed headings			127/-	158/-	195/-	
Do. grooved and tongued			152/1	187/7	230/10	

SKIRTING—			Per foot superficial—	1in	1in	1in
Wrot softwood moulded skirting with grounds and backings plugged			3/2	3/9	4/3	
Mitres to do. 3d. per sectional inch.						
Fitted ends 2d. do.						

SASHES, Fanlights, casements, borrowed lights, etc.—			Without bars	With bars (2ft sup. in each square)	per foot super—
2in softwood rebated, moulded and fixed			2/9	4/7	
Add if fitted with beads			6d.	1/6	
Add if hanging on butts			2/- each		

WINDOWS, hung on lines—			Overall size of frames—	per foot super—
Softwood cased frames, 1in inner and outer linings, 1½in pulley stiles, 2in sashes, oak sill.				
Per foot super.	6ft	21ft	32ft	44ft
Window as described	16/-	8/4	6/7	5/3
Add if sashes in squares, about 2 feet super in each		—	1/3	1/7
Extra for hanging sashes with lines, weights and axle pulleys	25/-	42/-	52/-	70/-

FINISHINGS TO OPENINGS—			Per foot super—
Softwood linings, tongued at angles and tongued to frame including grounds and backings	3/2	3/6	4/3 4/8
Add if crosstongued		6d.	6d. 6d.
Softwood wrot rounded on front edge and with tongue at back window board including groove in sill and bearers		3/1	3/6 4/3 4/9
Add for ends to last notched, returned and rounded		11d.	1/- 1/1 1/2
Per foot run—	Sectional area in inches—		
Softwood wrot and fixed in bearers, backings, grounds, fillets, and similar	3½d.	6d.	8½d. 10½d. 1/1 1/3
Add if in short lengths	2d.	2d.	2½d. 2½d. 3d.
“ if plugged to brick-work		4d.	4d. 4d. 4d. 4d.
“ if framed as in legs and bearers		3d.	3d. 4d. 4d. 6d.
“ if rebated or grooved or beaded		1d.	1d. 1d. 1d. 1d.
“ if chamfered or rounded edges		1½d.	1½d.
“ if moulded in architraves, capping, etc.		3d.	

DOOR FRAMES—			Per foot run—
Per sectional inch—	6in	8in	10in 12in 13½in
Softwood, wrot, rebated, rounded framed and fixed	1/10½	2/3	2/8½ 2/11 3/1½

DOORS—Per foot super.			Number of panels—
2in Softwood, square	1	2	3 4 5 6
framed and flat panels, both sides, on butts	5/-	6/-	6/6 7/- 7/3 8/-
1½in do. 4/2	5/-	5/6	5/10 6/1 6/7
Add for each side moulded		4d.	5d. 6d. 7d. 8d. 9d.
Add for do. flush panelled		8d.	8d. 8d. 6d. 7d. 7d.

per foot super—			1in	1½in	2in
In shelves, table tops, wrot and fixed	2/2	2/7	3/-	3/7	
Do. in divisions and ends framed	2/4	2/7	3/-	3/7	
Add if crosstongued	6d.	6d.	6d.	6d.	

SUNDRIES—Per foot run		In short lengths	In long lengths	Add for cups & screws
Glazing beads, mitred around and fixed with brads		6d.	4d.	2d.
Rounded heel or hollow			4d.	
Tongued and grooved angle			6d.	
Glue blocking			6d.	
Mitres			3d.	per sectional inch.
Fitted ends			2d.	do.

STAIRCASE—			Per ft Super
1½in Softwood treads with moulded nosings, risers tongued both edges and glued, blocked and bracketed on and including two fir framed carriages	1in		
Do. but in winders			4/9
1½in crosstongued landing on framed carriages			5/9
2in moulded string			4/9
2in do. ramped			4/6
Ends framed to newel			10/-
Tongued and mitred angles			8/6 each
Tongued heading joints			4/6 do.
Ends of treads and risers housed to string			3/- do.
Extra for curtail ends to steps, glued up and veneered riser and solid blocking			90/- do.
Balusters about 2ft 9in long, square and framed each end	1in	1½in 2in	
3½in × 3½in square newel, framed			3/6 per foot run
African mahogany moulded 3in × 2in hand-rail. (Joints below)			7/6 do.
Do. ramped 18in girth (do.)			45/- each
Do. wreathed (do.)			140/- each
Joint or framed ends			10/- each

FIXING ONLY IRONMONGERY			To deal	To hardwood
Barrel bolts			1/6	2/2 each
Flush bolts			3/6	4/3 do.
Sash fasteners			2/-	2/6 do.
Rim locks and furniture			4/9	5/10 do.
Mortice locks and do.			9/6	14/6 do.
Cupboard locks			2/6	3/- do.
Casement fasteners			2/-	2/6 do.
Do. stays			2/-	2/6 do.
Grip handles			2/4	3/- do.
Spring catches			2/-	2/6 do.
Cabin hooks			1/7	2/2 do.
Floor springs including oil			42/-	51/- do.
Overhead springs			11/9	14/- do.
Springhinges			9/6	11/2 do.

SMITH AND FOUNDER			
Basis framed steel joists and hoist and fix			68/6 per cwt.
Do. but in compound girders			71/- do.
Do. but in stanchions			78/6 do.
Trusses			93/- do.
Additional cost per cwt. over basic sections for following R.S.J.s.			
9in × 7in . . . 3½d. per cwt. 6in × 3in . . . 4½d. per cwt.			
5in × 3in, 10in × 8in, 12in × 8in, 14in × 8in, 16in × 8in, 18in × 6in, 18in × 7in, 20in × 6½in, 20in × 7½in . . .			6½d. do.
5in × 2½in, 22in × 7in . . .			10d. do.
4in × 3in, 24in × 7½in . . .			1/1½ do.
3in × 3in . . . 1½d. cwt. . . 4½in × 1½in . . .			2/9 do.
3in × 1½in . . .			3/10½ do.
Bolts and nuts, fitted			140/- do.
Forged straps			100/- do.
Wrot iron balustrade			124/- do.

RAINFALL GOODS			Per foot run—
Round cast-iron pipe with socketed joints caulked with red lead and tow and fixing with pipe nails and gas barrel distance pieces to plugs in brickwork	2in	3in	4in
Extra for shoes		each	3/3 3/9 4/9
Do. junctions		do.	4/9 6/- 8/6
Do. bends		do.	7/- 9/- 13/-
			5/6 7/- 9/6
RAINFALL GUTTERS			Per foot run—
Half round C.I. gutters jointed in red lead and bolted and fixed on iron brackets	5in	6in	
Ogee do. All as last			3/1 3/9 4/8
Extra for stop ends			3/5 3/11 4/11
Do. angles or outlets			2/10 3/6 3/9
			5/- 6/4 7/6

MEASURED RATES—Continued

PLUMBER

EXTERNAL—

	Soakers	Flats	Flashings
4lb Milled Sheet lead per cwt.	162/-	193/-	201/-
Per foot run	1in	1in	1in
Lead main pipe	5/6	7/8	10/1
Ditto service ditto	5/3	6/9	8/6
Ditto waste ditto	3/11	4/8	6/-
Bends each	—	—	1/9
Solder joints	7/4	9/-	10/6
Union and joints	12/10	16/5	21/1
Stop valve and ditto	28/11	37/7	51/10
Bib valve and ditto	20/8	28/-	—
Ball valve and ditto	22/6	31/7	49/5
Sleeve and ditto	—	—	71/11
	—	—	21/3
	—	—	28/9

COPPER TUBES

	1in	1in	1in	1in	1in	2in
Tubes per foot run	2/5	3/-	3/11	4/6	5/2	7/9
Couplings: straight each	3/1	3/10	5/5	7/1	9/6	12/11
Do. Bends each	6/-	7/2	10/-	13/7	20/5	28/1
Do. Tees	7/1	8/2	12/-	16/5	22/1	31/-
Do. Cistern	4/-	5/3	6/11	8/9	12/2	16/1
Stop cocks	23/10	33/6	52/9	93/-	138/-	213/-

BLACK TUBING (Class C) 1in 1in 1in 1in 1in 2in fixed with pipe brackets

	1in	2/1	2/7	3/3	3/10	5/1
Tubes, per foot run	3/10	4/6	5/6	7/1	8/-	12/4
Bends and fix, each	4/-	4/8	5/8	7/3	8/10	13/-
Tees and ditto	1/3	1/6	1/7	1/10	2/5	4/3

	2in	4in
Coated iron (M) weight L.C.C. soil and waste fixed with nails and distance pieces and molten lead joints	4/6	6/8
Extra only for bends and joint	12/7	20/9
Do. junctions and joints	14/-	26/-
Do. cleaning doors	16/6	18/-
Domical wire guards	2/4	2/6

PLASTERER—

	yard	super
Lime and hair	Render and set	5/4
Do.	Ditto float and set	6/9
Sirapite	Skimming coat	3/6
Do.	Render and set	6/11
Do.	Render float and ditto	8/10
Portland	Backing coat	4/1
Do.	Plain face	6/11
Do.	Floor screed	4/5
Keenes	Skimming coat	4/6
Dubbing	Thick or less	1/10
Metal lathing	mesh × 24 Gauge	5/4
6" × 6" × 1" Earthenware	Plain Glazed Tiles, in fair quantity, white, and setting (on prepared screed)	37/6
Rounded edge.	Extra over last	4d. per foot run.
Angles in ditto	4d.	each
Cutting and fitting. Around pipes or clips	1/-	ditto
Narrow widths. 3" to 6" wide.	Add 75% to plain surface.	
Ditto. 6" to 12" ditto.	Add 40% to plain surface.	
Sundry labours per foot linear:		
Quirk 2½d. Arris 3½d. Fair edge 2d. Rounded edge 4d.		
Flesh bead 1/5.		
Mouldings—5d. per inch girth.		
Jointing new plastering to old 3d.		

POLISHING

NEW WORK—

	Foot	super	Sashwork
Staining, bodying-in and French Polish	2/5	1/7	
Staining and wax polishing on hardwood	1/1	9d.	

OLD WORK—

	11d.	—
Cleaning down old work and repolish	2/8	1/10

INTERNAL PAINTING

With white lead base in common colours, with brushes.

	Knot	Prime	Prime	Add
	stop	and	paint	for each
ON WOOD—	prime	once	twice	extra
General surfaces	2/4	4/7	6/4	1/8

Running lengths not exceeding 3" wide	3½d.	6½d.	9d.	2½d.	Yard run
Do. 3" to 6" wide	5d.	9½d.	1/-	3½d.	do.
Do. 6" to 9" wide	7½d.	1/1½	1/7	5d.	do.
Do. 9" to 12" wide	10d.	1/6	2/-	6½d.	do.
Sash square each side	4/11	8/5	11/4	2/11	per doz.
Do. in large squares	7/1	12/-	16/2	3/10	do.
Opening edges	—	7d.	1/2	7d.	each
Casement frames	—	4½d.	8½d.	3d.	Yard run
each side	—	—	—	—	
Mullions or transoms, do.	6½d.	11½d.	1/3	4½d.	do.

ON PLASTER

One coat	Two coats	Three coats	Per Yard super
Paint on surfaces	2/4	4/4	6/-
Do. on mouldings	2/8	5/2	7/-
Do. on enrichment	4/6	8/6	11/-

ON STEEL—

Paint on structural steel	2/-	3/9	5/3	do.
Do. on roof trusses	3/3	6/4	8/9	do.
Do. on metal windows measured over all on both sides, divided into squares	3/-	5/2	7/3	do.
Do. divided into large squares	2/7	4/5	5/9	do.
Do. divided into extra large squares	2/1	3/8	4/11	do.
Do. on opening edges	9½d.	1/5½	1/11	each
Do. on rain water pipe	7d.	1/3	1/8	Yard run
Do. on do. gutter	1/-	2/1	2/10	do.
Do. on small pipe	2½d.	5½d.	8d.	do.

GLAZING (to New Work)

Polished Plate Glass ordinary substance (about 1in), glazing quality, in the following sizes, glazed complete—	Per foot super
In plates not exceeding 2 feet super in each	4/9
Do. 5 feet	do.
Do. 45 feet	do.
Do. 100 feet	do.

Add extra price for glazing with screw beads or clips 3d. per foot super.

Do. if glazing bedded in washleather or velvet 6d. per foot run.

SHEET GLASS glazed, complete, per foot super, in new work:

24 oz	26 oz	32 oz
Ordinary quality clear glazed to wood with putty in areas of 100 feet super in the aggregate	1/9½	1/11½

feet super in the aggregate	2/2½
-----------------------------	------

Do. 200 feet do.	1/7½	1/9½	2/0½
Do. 500 feet do.	1/6	1/8½	1/11½

Figured rolled and Cathedral, glazed to wood with putty in 100 foot super areas in aggregate. (White.) (1in.)	Per foot super	1/11½
---	----------------	-------

Do. in standard tints	do.	2/7
Fluted, glazed do.	do.	2/4
Reeded (narrow, broad, etc.) do.	do.	2/3
Reedlyte do.	do.	2/3
Spotlyte do.	do.	2/2½
½in Rough cast do.	do.	2/2½
½in Do. wired do.	do.	2/5
½in Georgian Rough Cast do.	do.	2/5½

Add for glazing all as before but to steel to similar work as above, 2d. per superficial foot.

PAINTER AND DECORATOR

DISTEMPERING—In common colours, put on with brushes—

ON PREPARED SURFACE.

	1 coat	2 coats	Add if required
per yard super—			for
	(finish)	(under-	
	coat	coat	Sealing
Ordinary distemper on flat	7½d.	1/2	Stippling
surface of plaster	and finish)		
Washable do. on do. of			
plaster			
Add if in margins, narrow	10½d.	1/7	
widths or panels	30%	30%	20%
Add if on mouldings	50%	50%	45%
Add if on enrichments	160%	160%	115%

PAPERHANGING

Hanging only—

	Per piece—	Lining	Pattern
On walls	6/-	7/2	
On Stairs	8/2	9/6	
On ceilings	7/2	8/4	

Notes below give basic data of contracts open under locality and authority which are in bold type. References indicate: (a) type of work, (b) address for application. Where no town is stated in the

CONTRACT • NEWS •

OPEN

BUILDING

BARROW-IN-FURNESS B.C. (a) 107 dwellings, Abbotsmead Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) Mar. 1.

BECKENHAM B.C. (a) 4 houses at corner of Ravenscroft Road and Pelham Road. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) £2. (e) Feb. 15.

BERKSHIRE C.C. (a) 3 classrooms, cloakrooms, lavatories and scullery, Kennington School, near Oxford. (b) County Architect, Wilton House, Parkside Road, Reading. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 22.

BLACKPOOL B.C. (a) Marton Secondary Modern School. (b) Borough Surveyor, Municipal Buildings. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 26.

BOURNEMOUTH B.C. (a) (1) 7 pairs, (2) 8 pairs, (3) 8 pairs, and (4) 14 pairs of houses, West Howe Estate. (b) Borough Architect, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 16.

BOURNEMOUTH B.C. (a) House at junction of Abbott Road with Markham Road. (b) Borough Architect, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 20.

BURTON-ON-TRENT B.C. (a) New grammar school. (b) Borough Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) 3gns. (d) Feb. 10. (e) Mar. 19.

CARDIFF C.C. (a) New County Secondary School for Girls, Heol Hir, (b) Messrs. E. R. Budgen and Partners, 95-97, St. Mary Street. (c) 2gns.

CARDIGAN C.C. (a) 3 police houses, Cae'r-gôg Terrace, Aberystwyth. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Aberystwyth. (e) Feb. 22.

CHESTER R.C. (a) 28 houses, Christleton, near Chester. (b) Council's Architect, 16, White Friars. (c) 3gns. (e) Mar. 8.

CROYDON B.C. (a) Kitchen and dining hall, Coloma School, Tavistock Road. (b) Chief Education Officer, Katherine Street. (c) £1. (e) Feb. 25.

CUMBERLAND C.C. (a) New branch library at Maryport; (2) adaptations to Nelson School, Wigton, to provide new science laboratory, sanitary and cloakroom accommodation; (3) erection of part I and II of (five instalment) Junior School at Annie Pit Lane, Workington; (4) erection of a new classroom, cloakroom and sanitary accommodation at Penrudlock County School, near Penrith; (5) erection of new classroom and lavatory block at Gilsland Controlled School, and provision of a bathroom in Gilsland School House. (b) County Architect, 15, Portland Square, Carlisle. (e) (1) and (2) Feb. 15; (3) Mar. 16; (4) and (5) Mar. 2.

DONCASTER B.C. (a) Internal cladding, brickwork, finishings and completion of secondary school for boys, Hills Lane, Wheatley. (b) Borough Architect, 15, South Parade. (c) 3gns. (e) Mar. 11.

address it is the same as the locality given in the heading, (c) deposit, (d) last date for application, (e) last date and time for submission of tenders. Full details of contracts marked **★** are given in the advertisement section.

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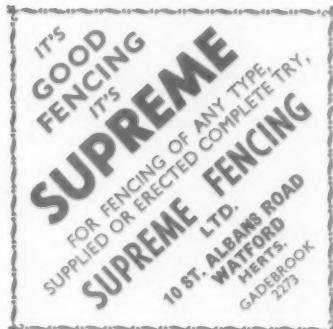
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DONCASTER R.C. (a) Block of 6 shops and flats, Gattison Lane Estate, Rossington. (b) Surveyor to the Council, Nether Hall. (c) Feb. 12.

DUDLEY B.C. (a) 2 blocks of 4 houses with flats over, High Street, Woodside. (b) Borough Architect, Priory Hall. (c) 2gns. (d) Feb. 8. (e) Mar. 1.

DURHAM C.C. (a) Ambulance depot, Winlaton. (b) County Architect, Court Lane. (c) Feb. 19.

EAST GRINSTEAD U.C. (a) 28 houses, Blackwell Farm Estate. (b) Surveyor to the Council, East Court. (c) 5gns. (e) Feb. 20.

EAST RETFORD R.C. (a) 37 houses, Ranskill. (b) Architect to the Council, Council Offices, 40, Grove Street, Retford, Notts. (c) 5gns. (e) Feb. 24.

EAST RIDING C.C. (a) (1) County Secondary School at Brough and (2) erection of headmaster's and caretaker's houses for this school. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Beverley. (c) £2 each contract. (e) Mar. 8.

EAST RIDING C.C. (a) Ambulance station at Pocklington. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Beverley. (c) £2. (e) Feb. 22.

ELSTREE R.C. (a) 20 prefabricated garages, with concrete yard and access road, slab footpaths and surface water drainage, Winstre Road, Boreham Wood. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, Shenley Road, Boreham Wood, Herts. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 15.

EPSOM AND EWELL B.C. (a) Pavilion at Ewell Court Recreation Ground, Poole Road, West Ewell. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Epsom. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 15.

HARROGATE B.C. (a) 24 aged persons' flats, Grove House and Eleanor Road Estates. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices. (e) Feb. 12.

IPSWICH B.C. (a) 110 houses, Chantry Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, 19, Tower Street. (c) 3 gns. (d) Feb. 5. (e) Mar. 11.

IPSWICH B.C. (a) Chantry Infants' School, Aster Road, Ipswich. (b) Messrs. Johns and Slater, 32, Foundation Street. (c) 2gns. (d) Feb. 16. (e) Mar. 9.

IPSWICH B.C. (a) Extensions to Northgate Grammar School for Boys, Ipswich. (b) Messrs. Johns and Slater, 32, Foundation Street. (c) 2gns. (d) Feb. 15. (e) March 9.

ISLE OF ELY C.C. (a) Conversion of Wilburton Manor to form Special School. (b) County Architect, County Hall, March. (c) 2gns. (d) Feb. 6. (e) March 2.

ISLE OF ELY C.C. (a) New brick classroom at Outwell Beaupre School. (b) County Architect, County Hall, March. (c) 2gns. (d) Feb. 6. (e) March 2.

KNIGHTON U.C. (a) 14 houses at Pontfaen site, Ludlow Road. (b) Clerk to the Council, Town Hall. (c) 5gns. (e) Feb. 24.

LINDSEY C.C. (a) Fire and ambulance station, Gainsborough. (b) County Architect, County Offices, Lincoln. (e) March 6.

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LUTON B.C. (a) Block of 4 shops with 4 flats over, Yeovil Road, Ashcroft Road Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 18.

MANCHESTER C.C. (a) Police section house at Cornishway, Wythenshawe. (b) City Architect, Town Hall. (c) 1gn. (e) Feb. 12.

NORTHAMPTON (a) New gymnasium, etc., at Northampton Grammar School. (b) Messrs. G. E. Churchill and H. A. Skerrett, Northampton Grammar School, Billing Road. (c) 2gns. (d) Feb. 10.

NORTHFLEET U.C. (a) Reinforced concrete construction for an underground control centre. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices. (e) Feb. 23. See page ..

N. IRELAND—COMBER (CO. DOWN) (a) Block of one shop, 1 house and 5 flats at Comber. (b) Northern Ireland Housing Trust, 12, Hope Street, Belfast. (c) £3. (e) Feb. 17.

OSWESTRY B.C. (a) 76 houses, Middleton Road, Stage 6. (b) Borough Surveyor, Guildhall. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 22.

PORTSMOUTH C.C. (a) 51 flats at Portsdown. (b) City Architect, Municipal Offices, 1, Western Parade. (c) 3gns. (d) Feb. 13.

PRESTON B.C. (a) Ashton 1 County Secondary School. (b) Borough Surveyor, Municipal Building. (c) 3gns. (e) Mar. 11.

RUSHDEN U.C. (a) 44 houses, Upper Queen Street site. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Buildings. (e) Feb. 16.

SHEFFIELD C.C. (a) (1) Hinde House Secondary Modern School (off Shiregreen Lane) and (2) Silverdale Secondary Modern School (off Ringinglow Road). (b) City Architect, Town Hall, 1. (c) £3 each contract. (e) Feb. 19.

SOUTHAMPTON B.C. (a) New annexe at Sholing (Middle Road) Secondary Girls' School. (b) Borough Architect, Civic Centre. (c) £1. (d) Feb. 13. (e) Mar. 15.

TONBRIDGE U.C. (a) Public conveniences, Priory Road. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Tonbridge Castle. (c) 3gns. (e) Feb. 15.

WALLASEY B.C. (a) Conveniences, Maddock Road. (b) Borough Architect, Town Hall. (c) 1gn. (e) Feb. 17.

WALTHAMSTOW B.C. (a) Conversion of 30, Howard Road, E.17, into 2 self-contained flats. (b) Borough Architect, Town Hall, Forest Road, E.17. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 15.

WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE U.C. (a) 22 houses, Sunnyside Housing Estate. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, Walton-on-Thames. (e) Feb. 27.

WEST RIDING C.C. (a) Provision of additional cloakroom and changing accommodation, Aireborough Grammar School. (b) County Architect, "Bishopsgarth," Westfield Road, Wakefield. (c) 1gn. (e) Feb. 22.

WOKING U.C. (a) 34 houses, Barnsbury Farm Estate. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices. (c) 2gns. (e) Feb. 15.

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PLACED

Notes on contracts placed state locality and authority in bold type with (1) type of work, (2) site, (3) name of contractor and address, (4) amount of tender or estimate. ↑ denotes that work may not start pending final acceptance, or obtaining of licence, or modification of tenders, etc.

GOSPORT B.C. (1) 117 houses. (2) Rowner Estate. (3) Hawkins Bros, Ltd., St. Ann's Hill Road, Gosport. (4) £210,731. (1) 55 flats. (2) South Street. (3) Geo. Wimpey & Co., Ltd., Hammersmith Grove, W.6. (4) £81,626.

BRADFORD CORPORATION. (1) 295 dwellings. (2) Halifax Road. (3) Direct labour. (4) £489,154. (1) 242 houses, 60 flats. (2) Delf Hill. (3) John Laing & Son, Ltd., Carlisle and London, N.W.7. (4) £481,541. Amended tenders.

CRAWLEY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. (1) 110 houses, 6 flats. (2) Langley Green. (3) Geo. Wimpey & Co., Ltd., 26, Hammersmith Grove, W.6. (4) £164,700.

WOLVERHAMPTON B.C. (1) 72 flats. (2) Primrose Avenue. (3) Geo. Wimpey & Co., Ltd., The Grove, Hammersmith, W.6. (4) £103,871. (1) 100 dwellings. (2) Tettenhall. (3) Direct labour.

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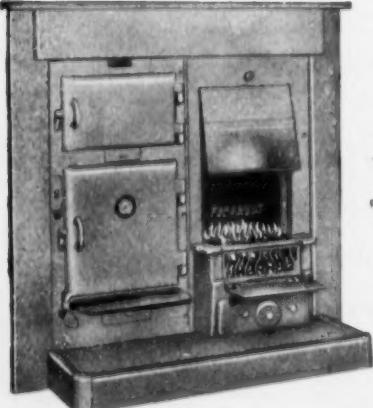
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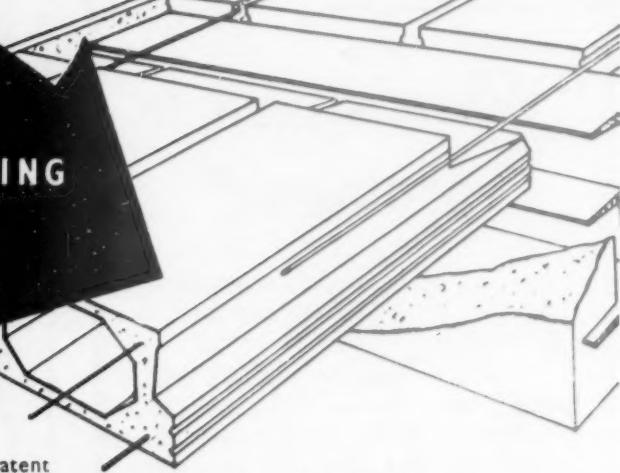
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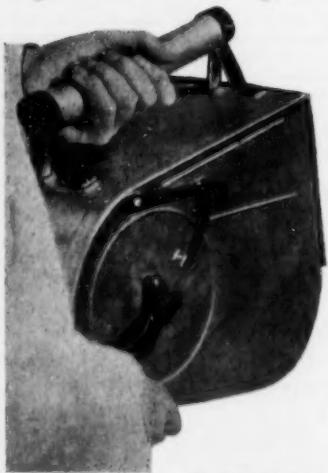
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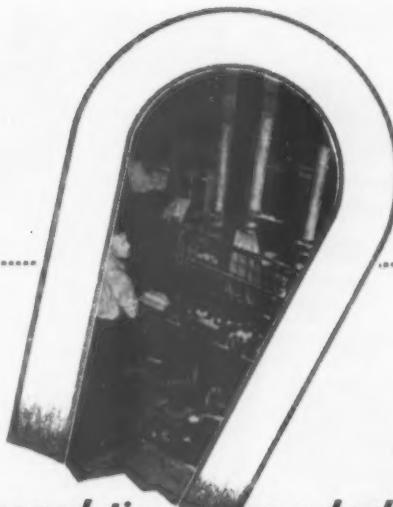
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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WEST HAM.

BOROUGH ARCHITECT AND PLANNING OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATIONS are invited from Associates R.I.B.A. for post of ASSISTANT ARCHITECT (£670 x £20 x £25 - £735, plus London Allowance). Enthusiasm and experience in Housing and Education Work required. Application forms (returnable by Monday, 15th February, 1954) from the Borough Architect & Planning Officer, Thomas E. North, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., Dist. T.P. 70, West Ham Lane, Stratford, E.15. [7620]

CUCKFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (GRADE APT. IV).

THE Council invite applications for the post of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT in the Surveyor's Department. Salary Grade APT. IV (£580 x £15 - £625 on 1st April, 1954).

Applicants must be able to undertake the design of houses and estate layouts and to prepare final plans, working drawings, specifications and estimates, and preference will be given to those who have passed the Intermediate Examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects or its equivalent.

The appointment is superannuated and subject to passing a medical examination.

Consideration will be given to the housing needs of married applicants.

Applications, enclosing copies of three recent testimonials, should reach me by noon on Tuesday, 16th February, 1954.

Canvassing disqualifies.

J. A. EVANS,
Clerk of the Council.

Oaklands,
Haywards Heath,
Sussex.

[7641]

FIFE COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited for the following appointments:

(a) SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT for the Schools Section of the above Department at Cupar. Salary scale £760 rising to £870 per annum. Candidates must be Associate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects and have had practical experience in contemporary design and construction and supervision of building works. Experience of school work will be advantageous.

(b) ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYORS (2) for the above Department situated at Cupar. Salary scale £630 rising to £770 per annum. Applicants should have passed the final examination of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and have had practical experience in the preparation of estimates and schedule of quantities, measuring up and the adjustment of final accounts for all trades in connection with schools and housing (traditional and non-traditional).

(c) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS (2) for the above Department situated at Kirkcaldy. Salary scale £630 rising to £770 per annum, with racing according to experience. Applicants should have had experience in the preparation of plans, specifications, etc., for architectural work usually undertaken by a local authority.

(d) ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMEN (4) for the above Department of the Council situated at Cupar. Salary scale £465 rising to £565 per annum. Applicants should be quick and accurate Draughtsmen, preferably having had experience in an Architectural Drawing Office.

Consideration may be given to meeting the housing needs of the successful candidates. The successful applicants, if under 45 years of age and subject to their passing a medical examination will be admitted to the Council's Superannuation Scheme.

Applications, stating age, experience, qualifications and post applied for, accompanied by copies of recent testimonials, should be lodged with the undersigned not later than 15th February, 1954.

MATTHEW POLLOCK,
County Buildings,
CUPAR,
Fife.

[7637]

ANNOUNCEMENTS • CONTRACTS • TENDERS

Close for press 1st post Monday for following Thursday Issue

APPOINTMENTS—contd.

BOROUGH OF WORTHING

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT QUANTITY SURVEYOR

Applications are invited for the above appointment at a salary in accordance with Grade A.P.T. VI of the National Joint Council's Scale of Salaries, i.e., £670 - £735 per annum.

Applicants should have passed the Final Examination of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, or should hold other equivalent qualifications, and should have good experience in estimating for new works, taking off, abstracting and billing quantities, and measuring up and settling final accounts.

The appointment will be subject to the National Scheme of Conditions of Service of Local Government Officers; to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937; and to the successful candidate passing satisfactorily a medical examination. The appointment will be determinable by one month's notice on either side.

The Council will assist in finding housing accommodation for the successful applicant if required.

Applications endorsed "Quantity Surveyor," stating age, qualifications and experience, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, should be delivered to the Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Worthing, not later than noon on Monday, 15th February, 1954.

ERNEST G. TOWNSEND,
Town Hall, Worthing.

Town Clerk. [7635]

BERKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Applications are invited for the following appointment in the County Architect's Dept.:-
QUANTITY SURVEYING ASSISTANT. Salary Grade IV. £555 - £600.

Candidates must have had some experience in taking off in accordance with the Standard Method of Measurement and preference will be given to those who have passed the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.C.S.

Application forms and further particulars can be obtained from the County Architect, Wilton House, Parkside Road, Reading, to whom they should be returned completed by noon on Thursday, the 18th February, 1954.

E. R. DAVIES,
Clerk of the Council. [7638]

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DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE.

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Application by letter, giving brief outline of professional and/or teaching experience, should be forwarded to the Principal within 14 days of the appearance of this advertisement. [7642]

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NORTHFLEET

Tenders are invited from Contractors specialising in REINFORCED CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION for an UNDERGROUND CONTROL CENTRE.

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Specification and form of Tender can be obtained from the Engineer and Surveyor at the address below on and after February 2nd.

Tenders, in plain sealed envelopes, endorsed "Tenders for Control Centre" and bearing no name or mark indicating the sender, must reach the undersigned not later than 12 noon on Tuesday, February 23rd, 1954.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

W. G. FUTCHER,
Council Offices,
Northfleet,
Kent.
January, 1954

[7636]

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ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT

The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, etc., if the applicant is a man aged 18-64, or a woman aged 18-59 inclusive, unless he or she or the employer is excepted from the provisions of The Notification of Vacancies Order 1952.

JUNIOR Architectural Assistant required, intermediate stage.—Apply, in writing, Joshua Clayton & Deas, High Row Chambers, Darlington, Co. Durham. [7640]

SCHOOL trained assistant, especially interested in contemporary design and colour, required by established London firm, office experience not essential, model making ability desirable; salary £600-£700 per annum.—Box 3053. [7611]

WANTED immediately, Intermediate Assistant for Architect's Office (S.W. coast); general experience, including housing, domestic and industrial work, surveys and simple specifications. Please state in reply whether married or single, salary required and when available.—Box 3235. [7623]

STAFF required immediately: Architectural Assistant, up to R.I.B.A. Intermediate Standard. Junior Assistant, working drawings, details, surveys, good draughtsman and knowledge of construction. Posts offer opportunity for advancement; some experience and salary required.—F. C. Levitt, L.R.I.B.A., Commerce House, Biggleswade, Beds. [7643]

A VACANCY exists with a City and West End company for an Architectural Assistant particularly interested in the modification and rebuilding of existing buildings. The work calls for quick and accurate draughtsmanship together with a sound knowledge of interior design and experience in model making would be considered an advantage. Full particulars with salary required to Box 3221. [7639]

ARCHITECTURAL Assistant required as a senior designer in drawing office of leading prefabricated building manufacturers at their Rochester Works. Quick, neat draughtsman with experience of prefabricated systems and with ability not only to plan but also to design and calculate efficient timber structures. Pension scheme. Send full details of training, experience and capabilities to Box 3116. [7624]

A MAJOR Oil Company, undergoing rapid expansion, requires Architectural Assistant of Intermediate standard for its London Head Office. Applicant must be capable of carrying out work on the design and remodelling of service stations. Social club. Luncheon voucher scheme.—Write, giving full details, stating age, experience, and salary required, quoting reference A.A. 005, to Box 3236. [7645]

SITUATIONS VACANT

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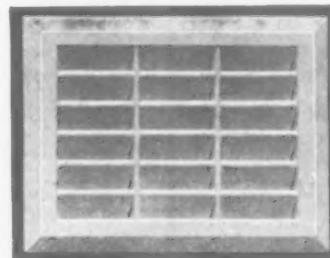
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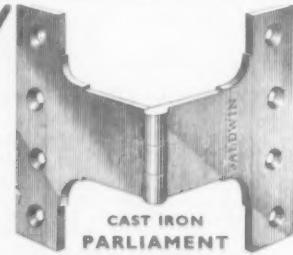


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